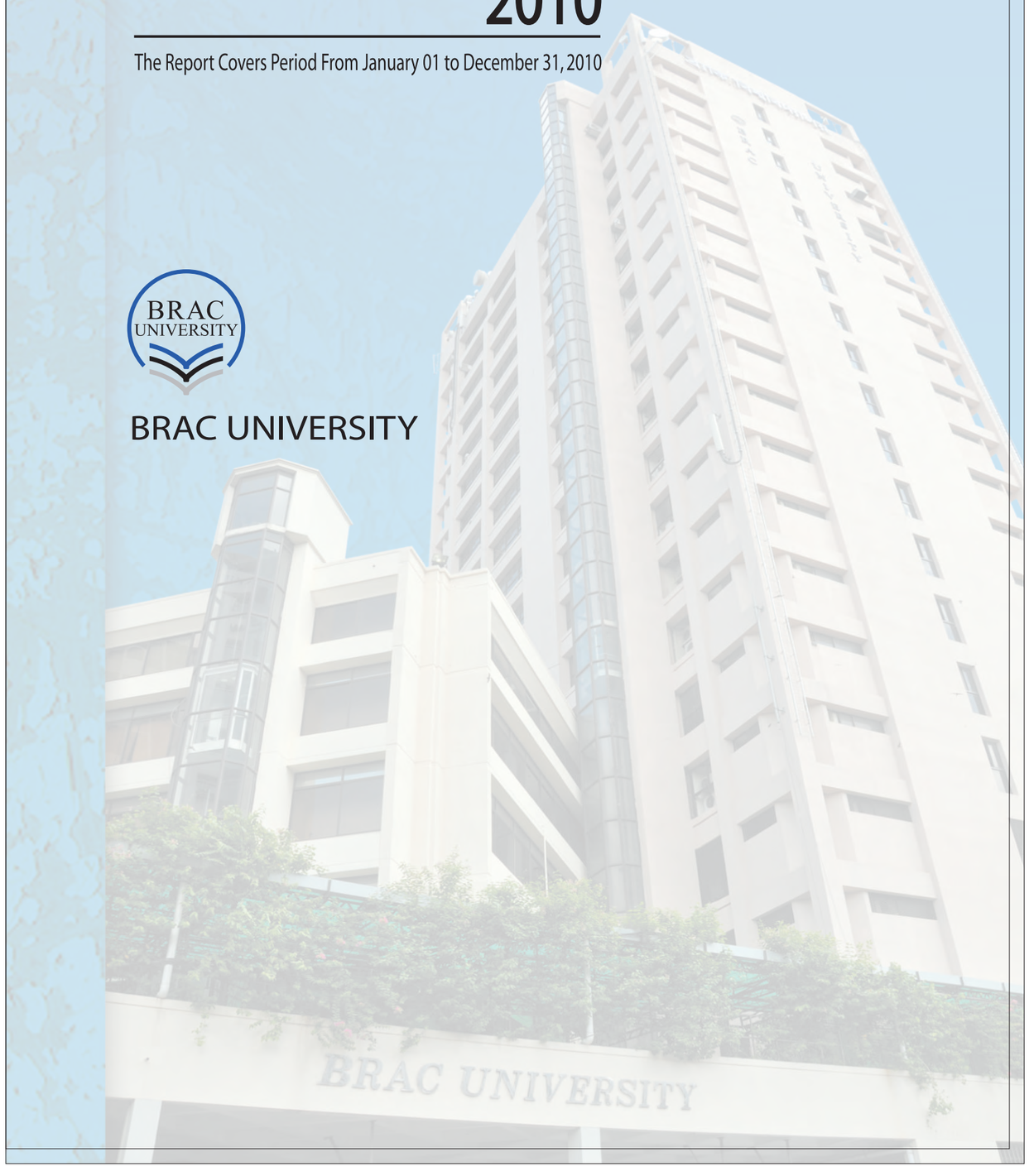
Annual Report 2010

The Report Covers Period From January 01 to December 31, 2010

BRAC UNIVERSITY



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Printed by
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2/2 Purana Paltan, Dhaka-1000

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Annual Report of MNS Department, BRACU 2010

Introduction:

The essence of science is change and development. Science plays a vital role in the development and progress of modern technology, whether it is in physical sciences, biological sciences, medicine, social sciences, engineering, agriculture, business, commerce or management. The Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (MNS) at BRAC University has been functioning since 2001, that is right from the start of BRAC University. The Department is providing quality education in basic and applied sciences and mathematics to the students of different disciplines, including its own.

Academic Excellence:

The Department of MNS offers courses in physical and life sciences, mathematics, statistics, economic geography and environmental sciences. It started the undergraduate programme for the degree of Bachelor of Science (BS) in Physics in Fall 2005 semester. It needs to be mentioned here that BRACU is the first and the only private university in Bangladesh to introduce undergraduate programme in physical sciences. In the last convocation held in 2010, one student got her Bachelor of Science degree in Physics with a second major in Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE). Another student got Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Engineering with a second major in Physics. In the sixth convocation to be held on 7 February 2011, two students are going to get their undergraduate degrees majoring in Physics. Another student is going to graduate in this convocation with their second major in Physics. The MNS Department is also running undergraduate programme in Applied Physics and Electronics. It offers undergraduate programme in Mathematics as well.

The MNS Department started two new undergraduate programmes from Summer Semester 2010 in biological sciences. The programmes are Bachelor of Science in biotechnology and Bachelor of Science in microbiology. For these two programmes, necessary lab facilities have been created. There are two separate labs for the biotechnology and microbiology programmes. The labs are well equipped with necessary equipment and accessories to carry out not only the course lab work but also to carry out high quality research. Biotechnology is a multidisciplinary science involving various disciplines like biochemistry, microbiology, molecular biology, genetics, chemical and biochemical engineering. The theory and lab courses for this programme have been designed accordingly. Genetic engineering is the latest branch of molecular biology which has been emphasized in the programme while making the syllabus. Microbiology programme includes topics such as basic microbiological techniques, biochemistry, microbial physiology, food microbiology, fermentation technology, industrial microbiology and so on. Both of the programmes are theoretical based, as well as acquire theoretical and practical skills in biotechnology, molecular biology and microbiology through these programmes. They will also be provided with the fundamental knowledge in related physical and biological sciences. The undergraduate programmes in biotechnology and microbiology have been launched to build basic strength in their respective fields which will help prepare the students in pursuing their higher studies and emerging fields. The department also plans to start undergraduate programmes in biochemistry and molecular biology in the near future.

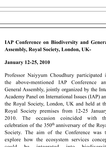
The MNS Department started the MS Biotechnology programme in the Spring 2007 Semester. Four students of the first batch of this programme got their degrees in the fourth convocation held in 2009. Four more students under this programme obtained their MS degrees in the last convocation held in 2010. In the sixth convocation to be held on 7 February 2011, four students are going to get their MS degrees in Biotechnology. A proposal for M Phil in physics is under consideration of the UGC. A proposal for MS in Nuclear Science and Engineering is awaiting approval of the UGC. MS in physics programme is also being finalized. In addition to these, the department plans to start post graduate programmes in microbiology, biochemistry and molecular biology. These postgraduate programmes will create an environment for research which is a sine qua non for creation of new knowledge and enhancing the image of the university.



Biotechnology Lab



Microbiology Lab



Physics Lab

Research Projects:

BAS-USDA-PALS Project

Dr. Aparna Islam, Assistant Professor of Biotechnology Programme, of the MNS Department along with Professor Zeba I Seraj of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Dhaka (DU) was awarded BAS-USDA PALS Endowment Fund for a project-titled "**Production of tomato tolerant to environmental stresses like salinity**". The allocated money for the project is around 58 lacs. The project is an inter- institute cooperation project which will be carried out partly at BRACU and partly at DU under the joint supervision of Dr Islam (Principal Investigator) and Professor Seraj (Co-Principal Investigator). The proposed project spread over three years includes development of plant tissue culture and molecular marker laboratory facilities at BRACU. Following inception of plant tissue culture facility, regeneration protocol for tomato will be developed. Various factors responsible for transformation efficiency will be evaluated prior to transformation with the salt tolerant gene. The project commenced in October 2010 at BRACU and the lab facilities have already been set up.

Grant for Research in Plasma Fusion and Space Science

A project titled "*Development of Glow Discharge Plasma Facilities for Fusion, Space Science and Industrial Applications*" with Professor Dr. Mofiz Uddin Ahmed of the Department of MNS as the Principal Investigator has recently been allocated a research grant of Tk. 10,000.00 (Taka Ten Lacs only) by the Ministry of Education, GOB. In this project glow discharge plasma research facilities will be developed for fusion, space science and industrial applications. A glow discharge is a self sustaining discharge, which is normally occurs at pressures well below atmospheric pressure. The positive column in the discharge experiment in the machine which is to be studied in the context of fusion, space plasma research and for various possible industrial applications. Processes happening in the plasma are those like TOKAMAK, STELERATORS etc. can easily be investigated with this machine. Studies of the dynamics, ionospheric phenomenon, interaction of electromagnetic waves associated with earthquakes and magnetospheric plasma, processes in dusty plasma, will also be investigated through this study.

Conferences:

Annual Botanical Conference 2009, Chittagong, 9-10 January, 2010

Dr. Aparna Islam of MNS Department and Ms. Jebunessa Chowdhury, MS student of Biotechnology programme, attended Annual Botanical Conference held in Chittagong on 9-10 January, 2010. The conference was arranged jointly by the Department of Botany, University of Chittagong and Bangladesh Botanical Society. The event took place at the University of Chittagong. There was a symposium titled "Coastal and Marine Plant Resources of Bangladesh: Status and Conservation". The conference was divided in four technical sessions having themes of biodiversity, conservation and arsenic pollution, experimental botany, and biotechnology. Ms. Chowdhury presented a research paper entitled"Callus Induction and Regeneration Frequency of the Locally Grown Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Miller) Varieties with Commercial Indian Variety". The oral presentation of the MSc thesis project of Ms Chowdhury, carried out under the supervision of Dr. Islam. The conference was attended by plant scientists from all over the country.

IAP Conference on Biodiversity and General Assembly, Royal Society, London, UK:

January 12-25, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury participated in the above-mentioned IAP Conference and General Assembly, jointly organized by the Inter Academy Panel on International Issues (IAP) and the Royal Society, London, UK and held at the Royal Society premises from 12-25 January 2010. The occasion coincided with the celebration of the 350th anniversary of the Royal Society. The aim of the Conference was to explore how the ecosystem services concept could be integrated into biodiversity management. The inaugural ceremony was chaired by Professor Martin Rees, FRS, President, Royal Society and Mr. HE Hon David Miliband, Foreign Secretary, UK was the Chief Guest. The Conference drew together experts from around the world including some Fellows of the Royal Society to share innovations, successes and challenges in ecosystem and biodiversity research. Speakers discussed a topic like insights on the science of ecosystem and biodiversity, technical issues and issues and challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, research gaps and the science and policy interface.

International Conference on Magnetism and Advanced Materials (ICMAM-2010), BUET, Dhaka, March 3-7, 2010

Muhammad Lutfor Rahman, Teaching Assistant of the MNS Department participated at the International Conference on Magnetism and Advanced Materials (ICMAM-2010) organized by the Department of Physics, BUET and Materials Science Division, Atomic Energy Centre Dhaka (AECD), on 3-7 March 2010 at BUET, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mr. Rahman presented a paper entitled"Magnetic properties of Cu substituted Ni-Zn ferrite". The paper dealt with the structural and surface morphology of the NiCuZn ferrites. The magnetic properties of these ferrites were characterized with high frequency (1 kHz-15 MHz) complex permeability and temperature dependent initial permeability measurements. The DC magnetizations as a function of applied magnetic field were measured at 300K by SQUID magnetometer. It was observed from X-ray diffraction that the ferrites formed spinel structure. Lattice parameters were calculated using the Nelson Riley function. The lattice constant increased with increasing Cu2+ content which followed the Vegard's law. The real part of the initial permeability increased with increasing Cu2+ content up to x=0.15 and beyond this value of x, permeability decreased. The Neel temperature, of these samples was determined and it showed a decreasing trend as a function of Cu2+ content due to the weakening of the A-B interaction. Compositional variation of saturation magnetization and hysteresis field were determined from M-H loops measurement.

Inauguration of BIPC Training Programme on Management of Ecoresources, BUET, Dhaka- March 31, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury attended the inaugural ceremony of the BIPC Training Programme on Management of ecoresources held at the auditorium of BUET on March 31, 2010. Organized jointly by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and BUET, the training programme was attended by over 80 librarians, library staff, IT personnel and senior academicians from different organizations of the country including BRACU. Professor Choudhury was the Chairperson of the Organizing Committee of the training programme. Professor M Shamsher Ali, President, Bangladesh Academy of Sciences was the Chief Guest and Professor AMM Safiullah, VC, BUET was the Special Guest. Professor Nazyum Choudhury attended the inaugural ceremony. The Bangladesh Academy of Sciences participated in the workshop and presented papers covering areas of approximation algorithm, computational algorithm, graph theoretic optimization, computational geometry algorithm, string algorithm etc. The Bangladesh Academy of Sciences also published the proceedings of the workshop by the prestigious publisher, Springer, Germany.

Consultation Workshop on Biosafety Rules of Bangladesh, Dhaka, 29 April, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury participated in the "Consultation Workshop on Biosafety Rules of Bangladesh" held at the Chaneli-Auditorium of the Parbesh Bhawan, Agargaon, Dhaka on 29 April 2010. The participants in the workshop included a good number of academicians, researchers, government officials, civil society members, NGO representatives and members of the news media. Mr. Mihir Kanti Majumder, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) was the Chief Guest and Dr. Wais Kabir, Executive Chairman of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) was the Special Guest of the inaugural ceremony. Mr. Robert Potter, Senior Associate of the AGBIOS,

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences in 2005 comprises more than forty research and academic organizations of the country and the consortium subscribes to 35 world-renowned publishers and supplies more than 20,000 world-class publications to the scientists, teachers, researchers and students of Bangladesh. Some organizations. It arranges training courses and offers trouble-shooting advice to different organizations in administration and management of e-resources.

International Conference On Recent Advances in Physics (IAP-2010), Department of Physics, University of Dhaka, 27-29, 2010

Mr. Md Kamruzzaman, Teaching Assistant of the MNS Department participated at the above-mentioned International Conference on 27-29 March, 2010 in Dhaka. It was organized by the Department of Physics, University of Dhaka and Materials Science Division, Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka and was inaugurated by the Sheikh Hasina,University of Dhaka. Mr.Zaman presented a paper entitled "A Model Interpolating Between Regular And Scale Free Network With Finite Degree". The paper dealt with the complex networking system and developing a scientific network model which emerged as a scale free network without imposing a preferential attachment rule given by Barabasi.

The Daily Star Roundtable Conference (RTC) on Scientific Innovations in Bangladesh: Developing Rapport Between Scientists, Industries and the Media, Dhaka, May 24, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury was invited by the Daily Star on 24 May, 2010 to participate in the above-mentioned RTC to discuss the ways and means to develop and strengthen rapport between scientists and the users of their research products in business and industry, increase the level of interaction among the scientists and between the scientists and the industry and to make the public and the policy makers aware of the innovations being made by the scientists in different fields. Twenty participants were invited which included chairmen of research organizations, vice-chancellors of different universities, some young researchers and scientists and chairman, BCSIR in his keynote paper highlighted the achievements of the BCSIR and Chairman, BAEC presented the present status of the government initiatives on nuclear power. Focusing on the main theme of the conference, Professor Nazyum Choudhury emphasized on the need for establishing more interaction between the scientists and the entrepreneurs.

10th Science Council of Asia Conference, Manila, the Philippines, June 13-16, 2010

The National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) hosted the 10th Science Council of Asia Conference (SCA) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in collaboration with the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) hosted the Science Council of Asia Conference on 13 - 16 June 2010, at Manila, the Philippines. The theme of the Conference was "Meeting the Health Challenges in the Asia Pacific Region: Responding through an Integrated and Multidisciplinary Approach in Science and Technology". Professor Dr. Shamsher Ali, President, BAS and Professor Nazyum Choudhury, participated in the Conference at the invitation of the Science Council of Japan, Tokyo. Leading scientists from different countries participated in the Conference and discussed various science-related issues common to Asian countries, including population problems, medical care, food, water, energy, and science education. During the Conference, simultaneous scientific sessions were held on climate change and health, culture and health, and technology and health. Worldrenowned researchers from across the globe were invited to share their experiences and breakthroughs on the aforesaid topics.

recruitment and retention of membership, which was highly acclaimed by other member organizations. As WAGGS wants to ensure the voice of young women, young leaders like Ms Chakravarty are working to set another 100 years of changing the lives of people can be celebrated.

International Conference on Magnetic Materials (ICMM-2010), Kolkata, India-October 25-28, 2010

Muhammad Lutfor Rahman, Teaching Assistant of Physics, at the MNS Department, participated in the International Conference on Magnetic Materials (ICMM-2010) held in Kolkata, India from October 25-28, 2010. The conference was organized by the Experimental Condensed Matter Physics (ECMP) Division, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics (SINP), Kolkata. The Conference theme was "Recent Development in Magnetic Materials" which was properly reflected when experts from different parts of the world came and shared their ideas. Mr. Rahman presented a paper titled "Structural and Magnetic Properties of $Ni0.4$-$xCuxCo$ $Fe2.6$-$yO4$". In this paper he described structural properties such as lattice parameter, bulk density, grain size as well as X-ray density. The polycrystalline NiCuZn ferrites which were prepared by auto

combustion method. He also showed how permeability of ferrites materials was influenced by the existing factor such as microstructure, grain size, porosity etc.

Conference on English Language Teaching in Bangladesh held at the BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 29 November, 2010

The Department of English and Humanities (EHD) of BRACU arranged a day-long conference titled "Working Strategies Linguistic Approaches and Research Language Teaching in Contemporary Bangladesh" on 25 November, 2010. Professor Nilufar Banu Chowdhury of the Modern Languages, University of Dhaka, presented the keynote paper at the inaugural session of the conference chaired by Professor Firdous Azim, Chairperson of the EHD Department of BRACU. Professor A.A.Z. Ahmad, Chairperson of the MNS Department gave an address in the inaugural session.

6th International Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology Conference, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 5-9, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury, Dr. Aparna Islam and Ms. Jebunessa Chowdhury attended the five-day long 6th International Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology Conference held at the University of Dhaka on 5-9 December, 2010. The Conference was organized by the Bangladesh Association for Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology (BAPTCB). It included seven scientific sessions where over 50 papers including key note papers were presented. Professor Nazyum Choudhury chaired a session entitled "Biosafety and Public Acceptance of Genetically Modified Plants".

5th International Conference on Microbiology of Food, Health and Hygiene, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 26-28, 2010

The Department of Microbiology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and Bangladesh Japan Association for Science and Technology jointly organized the Fifth International Conference on Microbiology of Food, Hygiene and Environment held on 26-28 December 2010. Dr. Ardur Razzaque, Minister for Food and Disaster Management was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Over 250 participants including delegates from foreign countries took part in the Conference and 200 papers and posters were presented. Two posters were presented from the Department of MNS in the Conference. Two MS Biotechnology students, namely Ms. Nusrat Jahan, presented a poster on "Antibiotic Resistant Pattern of Thesis Research and Future Applications" and Ms. Samia Rahman presented a poster on "The Study of Proteinases in Heath and Diseases." Professor Nazyum Choudhury chaired a scientific session devoted to food and environmental microbiology.

Thirteenth Asian Congress of Fluid Mechanics (13 ACFM), BUET, Dhaka, Bangladesh, December 17-21, 2010

Thirteenth Asian Congress of Fluid Mechanics (13thACFM) organized by (SOMU Bangladesh Society of Mechanical Engineers) was held on (17-21 December, 2010, at Islamic University of Technology (IUT). Professor Jiachun Li (China), Chairman of Asian Fluid Mechanics Committee and Professor Fazle Hussain (USA), Honorary Chair of Asian Fluid Mechanics Committee attended the Congress. Nearly 250 research papers were presented in different technical sessions. Three different mini symposia were also arranged. Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed of MNS Department presented a paper entitled "Dark Solitons of Gravitational Waves in Pulsar Plasma" in the astrophysical fluid session of the congress. Another paper entitled "Computational Fluid Dynamic Study of Flow Behavior in Membrane Modules with Multiple Filaments" was also presented in the Environmental and Natural Fluid Mechanics Session by Ms. Sharmina Hussain, from the MNS Department. Mr. M. Jakir Hossen, of the MNS Department also participated in the Congress as a co-author of a research paper.

Workshops:

WLDP (WAGGGS Leadership Development Program), Pune, India, February 7, 2010

Girls worldwide say, "Empowering girls will change our world." This is the mission of the Millennium Development Goals of WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts). To empower women it is necessary to develop in them leadership skills. "WAGGS Leadership Development Program (WLDP)" is such a program all around the world. This is also to support individuals, member organizations and thereby help WAGGGS in achieving its goals for leadership development and membership strengthening. This time WLDP was held in the Sangam World Centre in Pune, India. Ms. Lopamudra Chakravarty of the MNS Department participated in this program from 7-13 February, 2010.

Kiffe Sherkoms, Director, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, Switzerland to present a paper on the theme "Linking Universities and Research Centres to the Public and Private Sectors for the Management, Promotion and Commercialization of IP Assets." The Forum was organized by the WIPO in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Industry, GOB. It took place in Hotel Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka on 19-20 July, 2010 and the Prime Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was the Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony. Ministers, Deputy Ministers and other high officials of the GOB and least developed countries (LDCs) participated in the forum. Professor Choudhury presented the paper entitled "Academia-Scientists- Public-Private Sectors Interactions and Promotion of Public and Private Domain- Bangladesh's Perspective". He recommended for President of the scientists of the R&D organizations to interact with the private sectors directly and also for the development of entrepreneurial skills of the scientists. He emphasized on training of the scientists in different aspects of intellectual property, opening of IP Cell in the research organizations and inclusion of IP in the curricula at the tertiary level education. The WIPO informed the audience that all the presentations would be available in the WIPO website.

3rd Consultative Workshop on Best Practices in Teaching at BRACU, Dhaka 18 July 2010

Dr. Aparna Islam attended the half-day long 3rd Consultative Workshop on Best Practices in Teaching at BRACU. The workshop was aimed to recognize the present perception on the best practices, identify the present practices of teaching and learning and finally, what additional measures that could be taken to improve the situation including student-teacher interaction. At the end of the workshop each group submitted their opinion to achieve best teaching practices to make BRACU a unique educational institution.

WALCOM 2010: 4th International Workshop on Algorithm and Computation, BUET, Dhaka, February 9-11, 2010

The 4th International Workshop on Algorithm and Computation jointly organized by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and BUET was held at the BUET Auditorium on 9-11 February 2010. Professor Nazyum Choudhury attended the inaugural ceremony as a Member of the Advisory Committee and welcomed the delegates from home and abroad on behalf of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences. Professor Yushoh Osman, State Minister for Science and ICT, GOB was the Chief Guest and Professor A.M.M Safiullah, Vice Chancellor, BUET, was the Special Guest at the inaugural ceremony. Twenty-five delegates from different countries participated in the workshop and presented papers covering areas of approximation algorithm, computational algorithm, graph theoretic optimization, computational geometry algorithm, string algorithm etc. The Bangladesh Academy of Sciences also published the proceedings of the workshop by the prestigious publisher, Springer, Germany.

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Canada was the Guest of Honor. He emphasized the importance of biosafety rules for commercialization of genetic products.

National Crops and Forestry Biotechnology Policy Guidelines, Dhaka, 7 April, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury and Dr. Aparna Islam attended a day-long national workshop on "National Crops and Forestry Biotechnology Policy Guidelines" was inaugurated by the Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology (MSICT), GOB on 7 April, 2010 at the Bangabandhu NovoThoema Auditorium, Dhaka. The draft draft of the guidelines as presented in the workshop was prepared in line with the National Policy on Biotechnology approved by the government. Participants from different universities, R&D organizations, private enterprises took part in the discussion on the document. Architect Yushoh Osman, State Minister, Ministry of Science and ICT, GOB was the Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony and took part in the discussion as well.

Novartis Biocamp 2010, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh, July 23-24, 2010

Ms. Salima Mir, an MS biotechnology student participated in the Novartis BioCamp held from 23-24 July, 2010 at BRAC CDM, Savar. Salima Mir was one of the nine participants selected finally for biotech project development. This year's judges included Dr. Imran Ahmed, Pro-Vice Chancellor of ULAB, Professor Fedrik



Saiful Wahid, Director, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, North South University and Professor Dr. Mofiz Uddin Ahmed of the Department of Physics, University of Dhaka. Salima Mir was one of the three participants selected for the practicable and submit the final NSF policy to the Ministry by the end of December, 2010.

Seminars, Symposiums and Lectures:

International Symposium on Cancer and Developmental Biology: Clinical and Biochemical Advances, Dhaka, Bangladesh, January 29-30, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury and Mr. Md. Rajul Hossain participated in the above-mentioned symposium organized by the Bangladesh Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and held at the Senate Bhavan, University of Dhaka on January 29-30, 2010. Prof. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor, University of Dhaka was the Chief Guest at the inaugural ceremony. Prof. A Sukumaran, Director, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum, India was the keynote speaker. Professor Nazyum Choudhury chaired a session entitled "Transformation of Neuroblastoma" was delivered by Prof. Akira Nakagawara, President Chiba Cancer Centre. The second plenary was delivered by Prof. T.C. Wu of Johns Hopkins Medical Institute on "Perspectives in the Development of Vaccines against Human Papillomavirus for Cervical Cancer." The third plenary lecture entitled "A Novel Repulsive Axon Guidance Protein, Drexin" was delivered by Prof. Hideaki Tanaka", Researcher, Department of Developmental Neurobiology, Graduate School of Medical Science and Global COE, Kumamoto University,Kumamoto, Japan. In addition a large number of papers and poster discussions in cancer research were presented by eminent scientists.

MNS Seminar, Dhaka, 4 February, 2010

Mrs. Fardousi Ara Begum gave a talk entitled "Solving one-dimensional heat equation by control volume method and finite approximation with the exact solution" on 4 February 2010 in the Conference Room (UB 1521) of the MNS Department. The talk was based on the control volume method for the derivation of discretization equations. The heat conduction problem was solved by finite conservation principle when the discretization equations are derived by the application of concept of principles of GE food safety, regulation of GE food, production & molecular characterization of GE event, protein expression assessment, characteristics, assessment of nutritional quality, potential toxicity & allergenicity of novel proteins etc. Finally compositional analysis of the data for decision-making on the safety of GE food was discussed. In the workshop various case studies were discussed and participants were given a specific case for decision-making.

Regional Forum on Intellectual Property for the Policy Makers of the Least Developed Countries of Asia and the Pacific Region, Geneva, Switzerland, July 19-20, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury participated in the above-mentioned forum on invitation by Dr.

of climate change. Professor Choudhury emphasized the need for strong public-private partnership for meeting the challenges of climate change. He urged upon the BASS to develop the IT skills and expertise in implementing different programmes and activities of the government to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change in future.

Seminar on Arsenic Problem and its Mitigation, Dhaka, February 14, 2010

Professor Nazyum Choudhury participated in the above-mentioned seminar on "Arsenic Problem and its Mitigation", organized by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and held at the Atomic Energy Centre, Dhaka on 14 February 2010. Professor Abdur Hussain Khan, Senior Professor, University of Dhaka and Fellow, Bangladesh Academy of Sciences presented the keynote paper entitled "Mitigation Aspects of Ground Water Contamination with Arsenic: Bangladesh Perspectives". Ms Carola Endes of Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany presented a paper on "Approaches to Detect Arsenic in Tube Well Water"and Dr. Abdul Kader, CEO of Water & Vitals, Germany presented a paper on "Development and Dissemination of Nanotechnologies and Biosensors for Complete Management of Arsenic Induced Syndrome". Professor Nazyum Choudhury moderated the seminar and highlighted the present status of arsenic mitigation work in Bangladesh.

Seminar on "Agricultural Biotechnology: Perspective and Future", Dhaka, March 29, 2010

The students of MS in Biotechnology Programme at BRACU along with Dr. Aparna Islam, and Mr. Rajul Hossain attended a seminar entitled "Agricultural Biotechnology: Perspective and Future" at the Department of Botany, University of Dhaka. The seminar was organized on 29th March 2010 by the Bangladesh Association for Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology (BAPTCAB). Two papers were presented by two eminent scientists from abroad. The first talk entitled "Agricultural Biotechnology & Worldwide Perspective" was given by Professor Alan C. McHughen, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside, USA. In his talk Professor McHughen elaborated the need for adopting advanced tool to ensure food security and importance of biotechnological approach to attain food security. The second talk entitled "Agricultural Biotechnology vs. Organic Farming and Current Practices in Developing Countries' was given by Professor Jacobsen of the Institute of Plant Genetics, Leibniz University of Hannover Germany. He outlined the benefits of agri-biotech and its public perception along with rational comparison for agricultural biotechnology with traditional and organic farming. The seminar was attended by the scientists, faculty members and students of various research institutes and different departments of public and private universities of Bangladesh.

MNS Seminar, Dhaka, April 18, 2010

Ms. Lopamudra Chakravarty presented her paper entitled "Comparison of Discrete Fourier Transform and an Approach of Fast Fourier Transform" on "Implementation of FFT" on 18 April, 2010, in Room UB 1521. The approach of FFT used is based on Bill Davis and Jerry Uhl's work with FFT, known as Fast Fourier Fit (FFT) in differential equations. In this work Mathematica and FORTRAN codes have been used for both Fourier Transform and FFT to implement the solution procedure of BVP of partial differential equations. Comparison of the two approaches shows similar results but FFT does the job more efficiently than Fourier Transform. Faculty members and students of MNS and other

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Ms. Lopamudra Chakravarty presented her paper entitled "Comparison of Discrete Fourier Transform and an Approach of Fast Fourier Transform" on "Implementation of FFT" on 18 April, 2010, in Room UB 1521. The approach of FFT used is based on Bill Davis and Jerry Uhl's work with FFT, known as Fast Fourier Fit (FFT) in differential equations. In this work Mathematica and FORTRAN codes have been used for both Fourier Transform and FFT to implement the solution procedure of BVP of partial differential

FINAS Foundation Lecture 2010 at the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Dhaka, 8 May 2010

Professor Mofiz Uddin Ahmed, of the MNS Department delivered the FINAS Foundation Lecture titled "Plasma Fusion and Space Science" at the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh on 8 May 2010. Professor Ajoy Roy chaired the session and Professor Ahmed A. Jamal, Convener of the Trust Management Committee coordinated the programme. Members of the Foundation, scientists, academics, journalists attended the lecture. The talk was mostly confined to discuss plasma as the fourth state of matter, fusion of the promising and easily available nuclear energy and the space science related to plasma physics. Scientists now believe that 99% of matter in the universe is in plasma state. In the nucleus of all stars a process is happening- called nuclear fusion. In this process light nuclei of hydrogen atoms are fused together to create a heavier nucleus of helium atom. In this nuclear reaction some mass is lost which converts to energy as per Einstein's formula E=mc². Scientists for the last few decades are trying to control this reaction so that they can release energy from the reaction in a steady way to rotate turbine to generate electricity. This will solve the energy crisis of human beings for hundreds of years as the fuel of this reaction is heavy water which is available in the sea water. On the other hand plasma is the most abundant state of matter in the universe. Pulsars, quasars, black holes all are immersed in matter of plasma state. Prof Mofiz's lecture generated lively discussion among the participants.



Department. The presentation was based on the experimental study of Muhammad Lutfor Rahman for his M. Phil. in Physics from the Jahangirnagar University of Science and Technology (BUET).

MNS Seminar on Biothanol Production as Biofuel, Dhaka, 8 July 2010

Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain of the MNS Department, presented a seminar on 8 July 2010 in the MNS Conference Room. The topic of the seminar was "Production of Ethanol Using Yeast Isolates on Water Hyacinth and Azolla". The seminar described the alternative fuel generation by searching alternative cellulosic feedstocks to be used as biomass instead of the existing expensive substrates used for ethanol fermentation. Faculty members from MNS Department and other disciplines were present.

Association of Academies of Sciences in Asia (AASA) International Symposium on 'One Green Asia and the Fourth AASA-FASAS (Federation of Asian Scientific Academies and Societies) Joint International Conference on 'Science Education in Asia and the Pacific', Seoul, South Korea, October 18-22, 2010

At the invitation of the Korean Academy of Science and Technology (KAST), Professor Naiyyum Choudhury participated in the International Symposium on "One Green Asia", organized on the occasion of tenth anniversary of

by Architect Yeafesh Osman, State Minister, Ministry of Science and ICT. It may be mentioned that a 51 member National Committee on Science and Technology was formed on 28 July 2009 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and on the same day the present ECNCST was constituted with 31 Members. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury is a member of the ECNCST.

The meeting discussed the implementation of the decisions of the last ECNCST meeting held on 18 June 2005 including formulation of National Science and Technology Policy, formation of National Science and Technology Foundation, actions taken based on National ICT Policy etc. Professor Choudhury reported the present status of the National Science and Technology Policy. A Review Committee was formed by the Ministry of Science and ICT with Professor Choudhury as Convener to update and modify the National Science and Technology Policy submitted by a Committee in June 2006. Professor Choudhury highlighted some of the revisions and modifications made on the S&T Policy 2006 and proposed that the revised policy document (revised S&T Policy 2010) along with the S&T Policy 2006 be circulated to all the scientific organizations, ministries, NGOs and scientific and professional societies for comments. A one- day workshop would then be organized to deal with all the comments received for incorporation as well as finalization of the National Science and Technology Policy. The meeting accepted the proposal.

Meeting with Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Chairperson, Governing Board, BRAC University, Dhaka, 15 March, 2010

Professor Golam Samdani Fakir, Acting Vice-Chancellor and Professor A.A.Z.Ahmad, Chairperson, MNS Department met with Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, President, Governing Board, BRACU, on 15 March 2010 to discuss various matters regarding launching of undergraduate programmes in pharmacy, biotechnology and

present status of biosafety in relation to GMOs in the country and different initiatives taken by the Department of Environment to ensure that proper biosafety measures were taken in the laboratory research and field trial of the GMOs. The meeting was informed that the BRRI was conducting protected field trial of golden rice and BARI and a private company were involved in experimental trial of the Bt brinjal.

Commencement of BAS-USDA Funded Project in Agricultural Biotechnology

With Dr Aparna Islam of the MNS Department as the Principal Investigator, and Professor Zehr (Chair, Seraj of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Dhaka as the Co-PI, an agricultural project commenced in October 2010. This three year-long agricultural research project is entitled Production of tomato tolerant to environmental stresses like salinity. This inter-institutional collaborative project is funded by the "Bangladesh Academy of Sciences + United State Department of Agriculture Program in Agricultural and Life Sciences (BAS-USDA-PALS) Endowment Fund for the period 2010-2013. The project has a total allocation of Tk.58-625 lacs (Taka Fifty Eight Lacs Sixty Two Thousand and Five Hundred only) of which Tk.33.785 lacs (Taka Thirty Three Lacs Seventy Eight Thousand and Five Hundred only) has been released for the first year (2010-2011).

Stakeholder Consultation for Implementation of National Biosafety Framework, Dhaka, 25 October, 2010

Dr. Aparna Islam of the MNS Department attended a day-long stakeholder consultation meeting on the 'Stock-taking and Project Preparation' towards Implementation of National Biosafety Framework (PNBF)'.The event was organized by the Department of Environment (DoE), GOB and Global Environment Forum (GEF) in Dhaka, on 25 October, 2010. Various public and private universities and institutions

under the supervision of Dr. John Willison, a Senior Researcher of CEA. The aim of this project was to investigate the factors influencing the production and utilization of hydrogen using anaerobic photosynthetic bacteria, Rhodobacter Capsulatus. Hydrogen is a clean and efficient fuel, considered as a potential and more sustainable energy substitute. It has been predicted that the contribution of hydrogen to global energy consumption will increase dramatically, to approximately 50%, and it will possibly become one of the main sources of energy.

MS Biotech Student joined University Joseph Fourier, France as a Pre-Doctoral Fellow

Ms. Sadequa Sultana recently completed her MS degree in biotechnology from the Dept of MNS. She joined the predoctoral programme in nanobiology & nanobiotechnology at Universite Joseph Fourier, Grenoble, France. Her research project is expected to lead to PhD degree.

Jatiya Samannita Unnayan Foundation Thirteen Year Celebration and Award 2010

Jatiya Samannita Unnayan Foundation celebrated its thirteen years of existence and held the JSUF Award Ceremony on 04 December 2010. A number of distinguished persons in different fields were honoured. On the occasion a discussion meeting was held on the theme: Subsidy in Agriculture: Problems and Prospects. Professor Abul Barakat, President, Bangladesh Economics Society delivered the keynote address. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury was awarded JSUF 2010 award in science.

Celebrations/Functions

Fifth Convocation of BRACU and Award of Bachelor of Science Degree in Physics

The 5th Convocation of BRACU was held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre on 7 February 2010. Ms. Nadrat Lohani belonging

Miscellaneous

Joining of New Faculty Members

Associate Professor

Dr. M. Mahboob Hossain joined as Associate Professor in Microbiology in the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences on July 4 2010. He did his Ph. D from Shinshu University School of Medicine, Japan.

Assistant Professor

Dr. Abu M. Khan joined the department as an Assistant Professor in Physics. Dr. Khan did his Ph.D. from the University of Florida, USA.

Lecturer

Mr. Md. Riajul Hossain, Ms. Farzana Ahmed and Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury joined the Department of MNS as Lecturers in Biotechnology programme.

Ms. Zeenat Jahan, Ms. Farhana Musarrat and Mr. Mahbubul Hasan Siddiqui joined the Department of MNS as Lecturers in Microbiology programme.

Mr. Sheikh Ahmed Ullah and Ms. Sanjeeda Nazneen joined the Department of MNS as Lecturers in Mathematics.

Teaching Assistants

Mr. Md. Kamruzzaman and Ms.Nadrat Lohani Nabi joined as Teaching Assistants in physics.

Nakib Haider Protik and Mohammad Murtaza Mahmud, both alumni of BRAC University, joined the MNS Department as Teaching Assistants in physics.

New Programs

Two new programme, BS in Microbiology and

BS in Biotechnology have started under the MNS Department.

Faculty Rejoining the Department of MNS

Mr.Mohammad Maruf Ahmed a lecturer in mathematics, who was on study leave at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale USA joined the Department of MNS after his return from the USA.

Farewell of Professor Mezbahur Rahman

A programme was arranged to bid farewell to Professor Mezbahur Rahman on January 04, 2010, who taught courses in statistics during Summer 2009 and Fall 2009 semesters. Professor Rahman was on sabbatical leave during this period. He would be resuming his duties at the Minnesota State University, USA. Professor A. A. Z. Ahmad, Professor Naiyyum Choudhury and a few other faculty members of the MNS Department spoke on the occasion

Departure from Department

Ms. Adeeba Raihan and Ms. Nudrat Lohani, teaching assistants in the department, left for Scotland and Australia respectively. The department wishes them success in all their future ventures.

Students' Activities

B.Sc.Thesis Defence

Nakib Haider Protik and Mohammad Murtaza Mahmud successfully defended their thesis work for the degree of BS in physics on Thursday, March 25, 2010. The event was held in the Conference Room (UB 15221) of the MNS Department. Nakib Haider and Murtaza Mahmud did their thesis work under the supervision of Professor Arshad Momen, Department of Physics, University of Dhaka.

Meetings and Visits

Departmental meetings

Seven departmental meetings were held during the reported period. Several academic and administrative issues such as distribution of courses, invigilation duties, attendance, effective teaching practices, residential semester, absentee issue, reputation of the department, peer evaluation, tutorial classes, and admission procedure were discussed in the meetings.

Annual General Meeting of National Oceanography & Maritime Institute (NOAMI) and Election of its Board of Governors

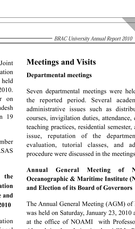
The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of NOAMI was held on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 4 p.m. at the office of NOAMI with Professor A.A.Z Ahmad in the chair. At the AGM, Professor A.A.Z Ahmad was reelected the Chairman of NOAMI for the fifth consecutive term. Professor Naiyyum Choudhury was elected a Vice Chairman.

Study Tour to Kaptai Hydroelectric Project and Bandarban

Students of the MNS Department went on a study tour to Bandarban and Rangmati on 6-10 January 2010. The team visited Bangladesh's only hydroelectric power project at Kaptai and gathered practical knowledge about the hydroelectric generation. One of the engineers on duty described in details the process of hydro electricity production. The team comprised nine students and it was led by Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Assistant Professor in the MNS Department.

18th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Committee on Science and Technology (ECNCST), Dhaka, February 2010

The meeting was held on February 2010 at the Ministry of Science and ICT, GOB and chaired



BRACU MS Biotech Students Visit BCSIR, Dhaka, June 24, 2010

A group of ten MS biotechnology students of BRACU visited BCSIR laboratories on June 24, 2010. The team was led by Md. Riajul Hossain of the MNS Department. Dr. Shamima Begum, Assistant Professor of Jagannath University guided the whole team throughout the visit. She herself demonstrated the production process of various products developed by BCSIR industrial Microbiology Lab, some of which have already been commercialized. The students were provided with a brief description of the production processes of a few products.

The visit was planned and organized by Professor Naiyyum Choudhury, Coordinator, Biotechnology Programme in consultation with Chairman, BCSIR and his former student, Dr. Shamima Begum.

MS Biotechnology Students Visit SWTP, Dhaka, 25 July 2010

A group of seven students of MS Biotechnology programme, visited the Saidabad Water Treatment Plant (SWTP) on 25 July 2010. The group was accompanied by five faculty members, led by Dr. Mahbub Hossain. The SWTP collects water for treatment from two rivers, Shitalakhya and Balu. The group was shown around different steps of water treatment

after collection, addition of chemicals, filtration adjustment of pH etc. before the final potable water is supplied to the zonal distribution channels.

The Saidabad Water Treatment Plant in its Phase II project meets only 30 percent of total demand of water supply, which is 225 million liters per day. DWASA (Dhaka WASA) is therefore looking into the possibility of increasing the capacity to 450 million liters per day in the third phase of this project. The Executive Engineer told the visiting team that two other water treatment plants were going to be established - Meghna Water Treatment Plant near the Meghna and a Mawa Water Treatment Plant near the Padma River to meet the increasing demand of water.

Biosafety Core Committee (BCC) Meeting, Dhaka, 4 October, 2010

Professor Naiyyum Choudhury attended the BCC Meeting held on 04 October, 2010 at the Chameli Conference Room of the Department of Environment. Presided over by Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Director, Technical, DoE, the meeting was attended by Dr. Sahanil Moon Chapotin, Biotechnology Advisor, USAID, Mr. Mak Vinsky, Deputy Director, Economic Growth Office, USAID and Dr. Andrew F. Roberts, Deputy Director, Centre for Environmental Risk Assessment (CERA), International Life Science Institute (ILSI), USA and researchers on GMOs from different academic and research institutions of Bangladesh. The meeting discussed the

could be developed between BRAC and MNS in some specific programmes such as agricultural invention of biotechnology.

Awards/Achievements

Graduates of MS Biotechnology Programme

Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury, Mr. Md. Moazzem Hossain Khan, Mr. Md. Nur-Us-Nabi and Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman were awarded MS degree in Biotechnology at the 5th Convocation of BRACU held on 7 February 2010. They were the second batch of the students who were awarded the MS degree. Among the four students Ms. Chowdhury is at present doing her PhD while working as a Research Associate under a USDA Agricultural Project at the University of Dhaka. Others are pursuing their careers in various industries. During their study period at BRACU, all the students participated in various study tours, attended local and international workshops and presented their research results at various national and international seminars.

BRACU TA awarded M.Phil Degree from BUET

Mr. Muhammad Lutfor Rahman, Teaching Assistant (TA) of the MNS Department recently earned the degree of Master of Philosophy (M. Phil) in Physics from BUET. His thesis title was "AC magnetic characterization of nanocrystalline Ni0.50-xZn0.50CuxFe2O4 prepared by combustion technique". He worked under the supervision of Professor A. K. M. Akther Hossain, Head of the Department of Physics, BUET. Mr. Rahman presented his research results in several national and international conferences. He gave an open seminar at BUET on his research work. He also gave a talk on the topic "Characterization of Ni0.50-xZn0.50CuxFe2O4 ferrites prepared by combustion technique" at the National Conference organized by Department of Physics, Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET), Bangladesh, on 8 November 2009. Mr. Rahman also participated at a Poster Session of the International Physics Conference, held on 16 May 2009 at BUET.

Voluntary Job through Bangladesh Girl Guides Association

Ms. Lopamudra Chakravarty of the MNS Department is engaged in voluntary job through Bangladesh Girl Guides Association. She also worked as a trainer in the Association. Ms Chakravarty was asked to give a talk on motivation in the guide guider training held at Physical Training College, Dhaka on 4 March 2010.This session was to show how to motivate people in various steps and situations of their life and also how to motivate girls' in guiding, so that through guiding they can serve people to get a better life.

MS Biotechnology Research at CNRS, CEA, Grenoble, France

Ms. Sadequa Sultana, an MS Biotechnology student returned from Grenoble, France in the first week of July 2010 after finishing her Master's Thesis project at CEA starting from January 2010 to June 2010. She conducted her laboratory work at Laboratoire Chimie et Biologie des Metaux, CEA Grenoble, France, under a joint collaboration programme between BRAC University and CEA-CNRS. The CEA is very active in three main fields: energy, information & health technologies, and defence & national security. It is performing basic research with the collaborative support of CNRS (The Centre National de la Recherch Scientifique), which is a government-funded research organization, under the administrative authority of France's Ministry of Research.

Ms. Sadequa Sultana worked on the project entitled "Optimization of hydrogen photoproduction by the bacterium Rhodobacter capsulatus: Role of Pyruvate Formate Lyase",

A total of eight scientific articles entitled "Biotechnology: Apes of Life's Career", "Epigenetics: Changing gene's expression", "Origin of modern humans", "Superbugs that clean up environment", "The biological clockwork", "Facial beauty: Genes hold secret", "Science of getting old" , "How to keep food safe" and two feature articles entitled "BRACU MS Biotech Students visit SWTP" and "BRACU Students visit BCSIR" were published in the Daily Star by Md. Riajul Hossain, Lecturer in Biotechnology of the Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. The scientific articles were published in the "Tuesday's Science and Life Section" and the feature articles were published in the Sunday's Star Campus magazine.

Publication of Books by Faculty Members of the MNS Department

Three faculty members at the MNS Department of BRACU have authored a book each. Mr Iftekhar Mohammad Shafiqul Kalam authored the book titled GLIMPSE on Child Labor: A Study on Child Labor Situation in Dhaka City Corporation, ISBN 978-3-8433-5955-1. Ms Mosshumi Zahur authored the book titled Private Apartment Housing: A Study on Affordability of the Middle Income People in Dhaka, Bangladesh, ISBN 978-3-8433-5920-7. Both the books have been published by LAMBERT Academic Publishing.

Mr. Shaik Ahmed ullah authored the book titled: On Binomial Asset Pricing Model: With convergence to Black-Scholes model and sigma algebra, ISBN-10: 3838383915

Publication of Papers

1. M. Arshad Momen ,Nakib Haider “Protik Simulating The Abelian Chern Simons Action On The Moyal Plane” Physics Series, Vol. LIV, (2010).

2. U. A. Mofiz and M. J. Jakir Hosse “On dark soliton of gravitational waves in pulsar plasma.” , Proceedings of the 13th Asian Congress of Fluid Mechanics, 17-21 December 2010, Dhaka, Bangladesh, p. 149.

3. Dr. Aparna Islam, Ms. Jebunnesa Chowdhury"Establishment of optimal conditions for an Agrobacterium mediated transformation in four tomato (Lycopersicon esculentum Mill.) varieties grown in Bangladesh." Journal of Agrobiology Academy of Sciences, Vol. 34, No. 2, 177-179 (2010)

4. Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury, Mr. Debashish Paul "Association of Vitamin D Receptor Gene Polymorphism with Young Onset Diabetes Mellitus in a Bangladeshi Population." ***Paul D****, Khan I, Faruque MO, Choudhury N, Hassan Z, Ali L.* Diab Med J. 2010; 38: 17.

5. Dr. Mahboob Hossain “Comparison of Bactericidal Activity of Serum Collected from Typhoid Patients and Normal Human Against Salmonella typhi at Various Incubation Time” in the Dhaka Univ. J. Pharm. Sci. 9(1): 65-67, (2010).

6. Dr. Mahboob Hossain “Interaction of palmitic acid with losartan potassium at the binding sites of bovine serum albumin” in Am pharmaceutica, Vol. 51, No. 1, pags. 28-36, (2010).

7. Dr. Mahboob Hossain “ In Vitro Antimicrobial Sensitivity of Escherichia coli Isolated from Clinical Sources” in the Journal of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences,Vol.34, No.1, 99-101 (2010).

8. Mr. Debashish Paul “Raised Vaginal Fluid Fibronectin Level Indicates Premature Rupture of Membrane**",** Bang Med Journal. 2010 (accepted).

In Nakib Haider's thesis noncommutative geometry has been proposed as an effective method by which physics below the Planck length can be probed. On the other hand,the geometry of the underlying manifold can be probed using the topological field theories proposed by Witten and Schwarz. There exist many topological field theories defined on a variety of noncommutative geometries. In this report, a brief survey of noncommutative geometry is presented along with numerical simulations of the abelian and nonabelian Chern-Simons actions on the noncommutative 2+1 Groenewold-Moyal plane using the Monte Carlo Metropolis algorithm. The implications of the results are also discussed.

Murtaza Mahmud's thesis contained a presentation of his work on Ricci Flow and Wormholes in 4D. The idea of Ricci flow is quite general and can also be used for understanding of the evolution of the space- time geometries. These techniques have been used to study the evolution of wormhole geometries of different types. e.g. Morris- Thorne wormholes and wormholes of bubble geometry. Depending upon the initial configuration the wormholes evolve in different ways. In some cases the wormhole throat decreases, pinches off and the manifold is divided into two different asymptotically flat universes. In some other cases the wormhole throat increases and the manifold becomes cylindrical. The evolution of Gidding-Strominger wormhole whose evolutionary process is affected by a spherically symmetric Kalb- Ramond field has also been studied. It is found that its throat increases during the evolutionary process.

MS Thesis Defenses in Biotechnology Programme

Mr. Debashish Paul, Ms. Salma Mir, Mr. Md.

Jahedul Islam and Ms. Sadequa Sultana, MS students in Biotechnology defended their thesis on 16th August 2010. Both Mr. Debashish Paul and Ms. Salma Mir carried out their research work at BIRDEM. They investigated the association of vitamin D and Calpain 10 gene polymorphism in relation to diabetes mellitus in a Bangladeshi population, while Mr. Md. Jahedul Islam worked on protocol development for detection of Salmonella enterica Typhi by nested PCR at ICDDR,B. Sadequa Sultana did her thesis work at Laboratoire Chimie et Biologie des Metaux, CEA Grenoble, France, under a joint collaboration programme between BRAC Uand CEA-CNRS. She studied the optimization of photoproduction of hydrogen by the bacterium Rhodobacter capsulatus. Through these defenses all four students fulfilled the requirement for their MS degree.

Participation in the Inter-University Mathematics Olympiad

A group of BRAC students from MNS and other departments of BRACU successfully participated in the Inter- University Mathematics Olympiad, 2010 at the North South University, held on December 30, 2010, which was jointly organized by Bangladesh Mathematical Society (BMS) and Dept. of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science of North South University. The team was led by Dr Mohammad Rafiqul Islam of the MNS Department and Advisor of BRACU Natural Sciences Club (BUNSC) accompanied by Mr. Nakib Haider Protik., Teaching Assistant at the MNS Department. MNS Department and BUNSC jointly coordinated the event. Out of a total of 22 students who registered for the event, 9 students have participated in the final round.

BRAC Business School (BBS)



The mission of BRAC Business School (BBS) is to contribute to the creation and dissemination of knowledge in the field of Management and Business. BBS strives to improve management, effectiveness and efficiency of business and non-business organizations through excellence in business education, training, research, publication and advisory services. Pursuant to its mission, the school offers an undergraduate and two graduate programs: Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Masters of Business Administration (MBA) and Executive Masters in Business Administration (EMBA). Owing to the very high quality of the program, and its commitment to the business of Bangladesh, a rising number of applicants have been consistently attracted to the programs. Some of the finest faculty members in business education are employed at the school and their endeavours are supplemented by high-class practitioners. BBS alumni are the brand ambassador of the university and are proving their excellence at home and abroad.

Conferences

- Md. Jabir Al Mursalin, a faculty member of BRAC Business School, presented a paper titled **"Stereotyping of Women in Advertising: A content Analysis Study on Bangladeshi Print Media Advertisement"** in the 3rd International Conference of Global Business and Management Forum, held on 23 December 2010 at Southeast University. The paper was jointly written by Ms. Syeda Rawnak Afza and Md. Jabir Al Mursalin. Prof. G. M. Chowdhury, Director – IBA, chaired the session while executives of different organizations and teachers from different universities were also present. The research paper gained huge appreciation from all concerned.

Workshops

- The BRAC Business School (BBS) Retreat 2010 was held at Madhupur TARC on 29 January 2010. A presentation on the First Draft Strategic Plan of BBS was made by Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BBS. Prof. Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRAC University, Prof. Dr. Mojib U. Ahmed, Director, MBA Program, and the faculty members of BBS participated in the discussion that followed the presentation.
- A workshop on the Art of Questioning in Creative Teaching was held on 23 September 2010. The workshop was designed for the faculty members of the BRAC Business

School (BBS) and was facilitated by Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Jr. Lecturer, Teaching Learning Centre (TLC). The workshop was organized by the TLC of BRAC University for discussion in the following areas:

- Why to ask question
- How to elicit response
- How to respond to student responses
- Types of questions
- Exercise to identify the types of question
- Exercise on formulating questions

The workshop received a positive feedback and was greatly appreciated by the faculty members.

Seminars

- A seminar titled "Meet the Entrepreneur" was organized by the Entrepreneurship Development Forum (EDF) on 29 November 2010. The guest speaker of the seminar was Mr. Mustak Ahmed, Director of Reptiles Farm Limited, Bangladesh. Mr. Ahmed shared his entrepreneurial experiences with the students.
- Mr. Sazidul Islam, GM, Brand Strategy & Planning, Spotlight Event Management, a sister concern of Bitopi, the oldest marketing firm in Bangladesh, spoke in a Seminar on Marketing held on 2 December 2010. Mr.Sazidul Islam highlighted the following aspects of marketing:
- Marketing as a Career – The speaker highlighted different fields of marketing, current national and global scenario of marketing and the scope of marketing as a career. He shared audio visuals of different marketing campaigns (global and local).
- Brand – This was an interactive session where students went through the basic elements of a brand and the students created a brand of their own, followed by presentations and discussions.
- Brand Strategy &Planning – The speaker explained how to prepare a brand strategy, how to plan a brand campaign launch, how to use and select different media tools, and finally what are the key elements of execution of a brand in a market.

The seminar was conducted by Mr. Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Asst. Prof. and BBA Program Coordinator, BBS.

- A Specialty Topic Seminar on Operations Management: Continuous Improvement for Operational Excellence was held on 8 December 2010. The speaker was Mr. M. Obaidul Gani, who holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from BUET, Dhaka, M. S. in Engineering & Operations Management from Wayne State University, Michigan, USA, and received his Executive Education in Operations Management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA. Mr. Gani also holds a Professional Engineering License, Certified as a Lean & Six-Sigma professional to work in the field of Continuous Improvement (C.I.). The topics discussed were Operations Management & Business Process Optimization, Lean Manufacturing & Toyota Production System (TPS), Six-Sigma DMAIC Methodology, Continuous Improvement Culture & Organization Change Management, and Prospect of Continuous Improvement in Bangladesh and related academic programs. The seminar was conducted by Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BBS and Minnun Sultana, Lecturer, BBS.

Talks & Discussions

- On 7 March 2010, the Faculty and Students of J. F. Oberlin University, Japan, visited BRAC Business School.The team comprised



of a total of 10 students and 2 faculty members. The faculty members were Mr. Kanako Hayashi, Research Assistant of International Cooperation Program, and Mr. Nobuhiro Kumagai, Asst. Prof., International Cooperation, Masters of Development Studies. During their visit, the team met Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BRAC Business School (BBS). The team was briefed on the current status of BRAC University. The team gave a presentation on poverty in Japan, demonstrating it during a Marketing Research class where they interacted with BRAC University students to share their knowledge on the issue of poverty. The program was coordinated by Mr. Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Asst. Prof. and Ms. Syeda Rownak Afza, Senior Lecturer, BBS.

- Fakir Maimaddin Hossain, Strategic Planner, Integrated Marketing Service was a guest lecturer on 10 March 2010 for the course MKT 422, "Selling and Salesmanship". Mr. Hossain talked on "Strategic Issues and Policies Related to Selling and Salesmanship."
- On 18 August 2010, a delegation of "Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE), China, met with the students of BRAC University at BRAC Business School Conference Room. The students shared their ideas with the Chinese team. Mr. Saleheddin Ahmed, former Pro-VC of BRAC University & Chief Technical Adviser, International Poverty Reduction Centre (IPRC) in China was present in the meeting. Delegates shared their ideas and views on business, entrepreneurship, higher education and student's participation in development process. Mr. Toddy of SIFE China gave a brief on SIFE. SIFE is an international non-profit organization that works with leaders in business and higher education to mobilize university students to make a difference in their communities while developing the skills to become socially responsible business leaders. Participating students form teams on their university campuses and apply business concepts to develop outreach projects that improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need. SIFE has its operations in 40 different countries with 42 thousand active student members. Yolanda HU, Director of Business Advisory Board Department, SIFE in Nottingham, Ningbo China, elaborated about SIFE in China and its possible role in Bangladesh. At the end, the students had a friendly networking session with the Chinese team.

Awards&Achievements

- The team 'Aretes' from BRAC University emerged as the champion in the Bangladesh





part of "The 2010 CIMA Global Business Challenge" case competition held in July 2010. Their performance in the final bettered that of the team from IBA who emerged, as the runner-up. The BU team went on to participate in the global competition held during the first week of August 2010 in Malaysia where they put up a very impressive performance. 16 teams from more than a dozen nations from Europe, Australia, Africa, and Asia participated in the competition.

- Proggna Paromita Majumder, a student of BRAC Business School, BRAC University and a mentor of the BRAC University Writing Centre, became the International Climate Champion 2010. On 19-25 September 2010, Proggna attended an international workshop in Nepal organized and sponsored by the British Council and ICIMOD. The climate champions from Bangladesh, Nepal and Uzbekistan participated in this workshop. The workshop aimed at bettering the understanding of climate change and what can be done about it.
- Unilever Business Case Competition named Bizmaestro was held on 29 October 2010 in the Lake Shore Hotel. Teams from IBA (Dhaka University), NSU, BRACU, East West, Faculty of Business Studies (Dhaka University), IUB, BUET Chemical, BUET Mechanical participated in the competition. BRAC University team secured the 3rd place in the competition out of the eight participating teams. The participants from BRAC University were Shamminaz Polen (BBS), Sabrina Binte Ahmed (BBS), Sadia Nowrin Haq (BBS), Nafis Muntasir (ESS) and Muqit-Al-Rahman (BBS).

Publications

- Mr. Anup Chowdhury, Assistant Professor:

Journal Articles:

Thanha, M.; Chowdhury, A.; Akter A.; and Karim, Dewan N., June 2010, "Recurrent borrowing behavior of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) – a comparative study" - has been accepted for the forthcoming issue of Journal of Marketing, University of Dhaka.

Chowdhury, A., Masuduzzaman M., August 2010, "Circuit Breaker; Development of Testable Hypothesis", - Chinese Business Review, David Publishing Company USA, Vol IX, No. 8, pp. 13-31

Chowdhury, A. and Chowdhury, Suman P., October 2010, "Impact of capital Structure on Firm's Value; evidence from Bangladesh", Business and Economic Horizon, Prague Development Center (ProQuest.com), Czech Republic, Vol. 3, No. 3, pp. 111-122

- Mr. Shawkat Kamal, Assistant Professor:

Kamal, S., November 2010, "Survival During Economic Shock: The Role of Firm Experience", Journal of SUB (State University of Bangladesh).

- Mr.Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor:

Journal Article:

Islam, T. and Ghosh, S.K., "Predicting Labour Unrest Through the Lenses of Theory of Planned Behavior: Cases from BEPZA" has been accepted for publication in BRAC University Journal, Vol. VII, No. 1, 2010.

Conference Papers Published:

Ghosh, S.K., "Market related factors influencing successful line extension of fast moving consumer goods: A Bangladesh perspective", AIMS International Conference on "Value-based Management" jointly organized by Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar (www.dsvv.org), Indus Business Academy (www.ibainternational.org) and AIMS International. The Association of Indian Management Scholars (www.aims-international.org), 11-13 August 2010, Haridwar, India.

Ghosh, S. K., "Expected Sales Skills Assessment in the Pharmaceuticals Sales Jobs", 2nd International Conference on "Doing Business In India", AIMS International Conference on Value-based Management jointly organized by Dev Sans kriti Vishwavidyalaya, Haridwar (www.dsvv.org), Indus Business Academy (www.ibainternational.org) and AIMS International. The Association of Indian Management Scholars (www.aims-international.org), 11-13 August 2010, Haridwar, India.

- Mr. Probal Dutta, Sr. Lecturer:

Dutta, P., Bose, S. and Biswas, K. K. (2010) "Corporate Financial Reporting on the internet: Evidence from Bangladesh", The Cost and Management, March-April, 2010, pp. 19-24.

- Mr. Suman Paul Chowdhury, Senior Lecturer:

Chowdhury, A. and Chowdhury, Suman P., October 2010, "Impact of capital Structure on Firm's Value; evidence from Bangladesh", Business and Economic Horizon, Prague Development Center (ProQuest.com), Czech Republic, Vol. 3, No. 3, pp. 111-122

Appointments/Arrivals/Departures

- In April 2010, Mr. Jabir Al Mursalin, Ms. Minnun Sultana and Ms. Rahnuma Ahmed joined the BRAC Business School as lecturers.

- In May 2010, Dr. Ahsan Habib joined BBS as an Assistant Professor, and Mr. Muhammad Intisar Alamas a lecturer.
- In September 2010, Ms. Sharmin Shahnam Rahman, Lecturer left to pursue Master programs in Investment and Finance at Queen Mary College, University of London.
- In September 2010, Ms. Samina Haque joined the BRAC Business School as a Lecturer II.

Students' Activities

- Ratul Dev, Executive wing coordinator of United Nations Youth & Students Association of Bangladesh (UNYSAB) and a student of the BRAC Business School attended the Nanyang Technological University Model United Nations Program, Singapore, 2010 held on 05-07 February 2010. Ratul headed the two-member team from Bangladesh and his position paper was based on the African Union. Model United Nations (MUN) is an authentic simulation of the councils in the United Nations, which aims at furthering the understanding about



United Nations, educating participants about current and future world issues and developing skills such as debating, negotiation and teamwork.

- BRAC Business School introduced a new activity **'Biz Talk'** from June 2010. The objective is to provide opportunities to students to practice spoken English. With this initiative BBS responds to suggestions made by teachers and potential employers. Although BizTalk has been initiated by BBS, students from other departments/ institutes/ schools are also welcome. BizTalk is guided by Dr. Ahsan Habib, Asst. Prof., BBS. Students are encouraged to propose topics for discussion. They normally share their main conclusions at the end of each session. Biz Talk welcomes speakers from other departments/schools/institutes who want to share their ideas on oral communication. It has plans to invite external experts as well. The motto of the initiative is TALK, TALK and TALK! In English.
- A consultation session was held on 20 September 2010 at BBS conference room with the undergraduate students of BRAC Business School (BBS). It was facilitated by Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University. Students from different semesters were present at the meeting and discussed several issues of the school. Their opinions and suggestions regarding course contents, class room teaching and some relevant logistic support were noted by the Pro-VC. Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar and Sumia Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of BBA Program, BRAC Business School, were also present.
- Proggna Paromita Majumder, a student of BRAC Business School attended "Information for Climate Actions 1-6 October 2010", organized by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain

Development (ICIMOD) and the Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN) together with the GIS Society of Nepal, the Nepalese Youth for Climate Action (NYCA), and other local partners working on youth capacity building. This initiative is being organized in the framework of SERVIR- Himalaya initiative and is supported by USAID and NASA. Among 750 applications from the Hindu Kush-Himalayas region - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Pakistan, only 39 applicants were accepted for participation in the forum and Proggna was one of them.

- Bangladesh Brand Forum organized a day long "Leadership Summit" at Radisson Water Garden Hotel on 2 October 2010. The theme of the program was "Taking the Quantum Leap:Transforming Corporate, Transforming Bangladesh." The speakers of the program were Dr. Ram Charan, Global Business Advisor, USA, Dr. Dipak C. Jain, Dean Designate, INSEAD, Dean Emeritus, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Mr. Allen J. Pathmarajah, Executive Chairman of AJP Advisers, and Mr. Rene Carayol, CEO, Inspired Leaders Network. Approximately 450 leading business people of Bangladesh attended the summit. The summit emphasized on the importance of transformation in the business sector of Bangladesh. Dr. Charan stressed the need for entrepreneurial boom in Bangladesh, extensive business management knowledge of the business people, and welcoming FDI for the transformation of the business sector of the country. 10 selected students of BRAC Business School, BRAC University, along with few students of other universities, volunteered for the program. The volunteers virtually became a part of the summit and thoroughly enjoyed the four leaders' presentations.
- On November, 2010, four sessions were conducted by the advisor of Biz Talk, Dr. Ahsan Habib, Asst. Prof., BBS.
- 1st session (1st Week) – Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, the Director of BBS encouraged the participants to ask questions so that they can



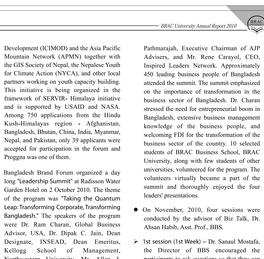


get rid of their shyness. There soon followed volley of questions from the participants which made the session very lively and interactive.

- 2nd session (2nd Week) – Ian Morrison (from Canada) Project Director, Bangladesh Legal Reform Project, discussed about legal support to poor women of Bangladesh.
- 3rd session (3rd Week) – Biz talk participants were happy to have Lily Lapenna (Italian) among them. They asked many questions regarding "MY BNK" and showed their tremendous interest in her organization. After the presentation Lily went to each and every group and answered their questions, which allowed the participants to get a clear idea about her organization.

- In December, 2010, BBS organized an open discussion session where its graduating students freely expressed their experience with BRACU and the corporate world and also put forward some suggestions on how to improve certain academic and non-academic aspects of the university. The faculty members, In-Charge of Career Services Office and a number of outgoing students participated in the meeting chaired by Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University. In the meeting, students expressed their satisfaction with academic standard of BRAC University. They were very glad to share the information that the University has got a good image in the corporate world and the employers are keen to hire its graduates. They also requested the authority to bring some changes in the academic and administrative procedures to make the university system more responsive to the students-needs. Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRACU, in his concluding remarks, reminded the students about their role as the ambassadors of BRACU and also urged them to put their best effort to uphold the image of the institution in the society by their good deeds.

EMBA Program



The EMBA Program of BRAC Business School addresses the need to equip Bangladesh's business executives with modern tools and techniques for effective decision making. The design envisages transfer of theoretical knowledge and skills to practitioners willing to develop themselves under modern learning environment. The EMBA Program aims at making corporate executives capable of skillfully using theoretical knowledge in practical situation to enhance effectiveness in decision- making.

The Launching ceremony of EMBA Program was held on 03 July 2010 at BRAC Centre INN auditorium.

Ms. Rokyea Afzal Rahman, President, federation of woman entrepreneurs , attended the session as the chief guest while Mr. Samson H Chowdhury, Chairman, Square group and Dr. Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University attend the session as guest of honor. Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BRAC Business School, and all the faculty members of BBS were present in the ceremony. The occasion was also graced by the honorable Treasurer and Registrar of the university.

School of Engineering and Computer Science (SECS)



INTRODUCTION

The School of Engineering and Computer Science embodies BRAC University's tradition of excellence as a leader in engineering education and research. The undergraduate and graduate programs offered by this school prepare students to be well-qualified for academia and the industry to apply engineering principles across a wide range of disciplines. The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) synergize and operate together under the School. The EEE Department offers two undergraduate programs: Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (BSEEE) and Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communication Engineering (BSECE), and the CSE Department offers Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (BSCS) and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering (BSCSE). The School of Engineering and Computer Science has also expanded its curriculum to graduate levels by offering two graduate programs: Master of Science with Sc.) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Master of Engineering (M. Engg.) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. Furthermore, the school is running a training program for CISCO Certified Network Associate (CCNA) under CISCO Networking Academy in BRAC University. Besides academic programs, the School of Engineering and Computer Science highly encourages undergraduate and graduate students to engage in research activities. Under the School, Center for Research on Bangla Language Processing (CRBLP) was established with a mission to develop Bangla computer font (PatoLibo) of the International Development Research Center (IDRC) in Canada, and subsequent support from Microsoft Corporation. CRBLP has been engaged in research on processing focusing on spelling and grammar checker, search engine, optical character recognition, speech processing, machine translation, and OLME research areas. For its outstanding contribution to the field of Bangla Language Processing, CRBLP was awarded the BASIS IT Innovation Award during the SOFTEXPO 2010, and the e-Content and ICT for Boys and Girls Award 2010 instituted by the Ministry of Science and ICT. Also in 2010, *Prothom Alo*, the highest circulation newspaper in Bangladesh, launched an audio version of its online newspaper *Ebook* on visually impaired using Bangla text to speech software developed at

Ahmed, Professor, Department of Mathematics and Natural Sciences were present along with other members of the faculty from CSE, EEE and MNS.



BRAC University Student Athletic Award Conference 2010

The BRAC University student Shibbir Imtiaz Hasan, from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, represented the first Harvard Conference 2010 as a part of the Environmental Panel from 18-21 February 2010.the conference was held in Harvard divided into two categories, Plenary and Panel sessions. The two plenary sessions on topics "American Foreign Policy: The Obama Administration" and "Changing Gender Roles: Has the Evolution of Women's Rights" were participated by all the delegates. There were five panels where delegates with specific interest groups gathered and discussed issues set out by Harvard University Graduate Students. The panel topics were Asian Leadership: Does Individualism Matter, Asian Perspectives in the Current Economic Crisis, Asian Perspectives on Global Environment Issues: The "Green War" Heats Up, Education Matters in Asia.

EEE Faculty attended ICREGA'10 conference

Marzia Alam attended a three days long "International Conference on Renewable Energy: Generation and Applications" (ICREGA'10) on 8 – 10 March in Al-Ain, UAE. She was invited to present her paper "Output Power Improvement of Photovoltaic Cell Using Automatic Sun Tracking System" at the conference. International

Conference on Renewable Energy: Generation and Applications (ICREGA'10) was organized by United Arab Emirates (UAE) University, one of the leading Universities in the UAE. ICREGA conference is primarily sponsored by Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, Abu Dhabi, UAE and IEEE with a joint collaboration with UAE University to provide a suitable platform to share the advanced technological expertise in the field of renewable energy and to transfer these knowledge exchange between researcher, scientist, academicians and engineers. Marzia Alam was accompanied by her other two co-authors, Md. Rasel Hossain and Rajesh Mondal who are final year students of EEE Department, BRAC University. Over 200 participants other countries were from India, Iran, Poland, Malaysia and the UK. The opening session of the ICREGA'10 was chaired by Dr. Lawrence L. Kazmerski, Associate Director, Science and Technology Partnership National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Golden, Colorado, USA.

EEE Faculty attended IEEE INFOCOM 2010 Conference

Nazmus Saquib attended the IEEE INFOCOM 2010 conference held in San Diego, CA, USA during15-19 March to present the Demo Paper, "VOSM: A MANET Voice Simulation Demonstration Tool for Naïve Users", by Nazmus Saquib, Md. Sabbir Rahman Sakib, Al-Sakib Khan Pathan. IEEE INFOCOM is a highly rated (Rank 1) conference of Communication Society. Distinguished researchers of various countries participated in the conference with their



from different departments, schools attended the interesting and informative seminar. The speaker emphasized on the increasing role that electronics was going to play in any way. In fact, electronic warfare would often play a decisive role in the outcome of any battle. The seminar ended with a very interesting and interactive question answer session.

Documentary on "When We Left Earth: The NASA Missions"

From the Earth to Universe, the engineers have been showing the courage to conquer them all for the last few decades. And it is been long since they first went beyond the Earth. The greatest ever expedition in human history is documented in "When We Left Earth: The NASA Missions." On 23 June, IEEE BRAC CSE Student Branch organized a technical documentary show based on its 1st episode titled "Race to Ordinary Superman". It documented the start of the Space Race and the flights of the Mercury program, including John Glenn's historic flight Friendship 7 and the unmistakable thrill of watching with the whole shield that occurred during the second orbit. The documentary also featured interviews from astronauts as well as NASA officials. The motive of the technical show was to clarify the vagueness of the students regarding NASA's mission and also to encourage the interest of various individuals.

BRAC Faculty and Students attend Seminar on Nanoelectronic Materials

On 20 July 2010 the IEEE student members of BRAC University along with the faculty members attended the seminar on "Nanoelectronic materials and devices for beyond-CMOS". The main talk was given by M. Ahad Khayer of Department of Electrical Engineering, University of California at Riverside, CA, USA. The event, held in BUET, was arranged by IEEE Bangladesh Section, EDS Bangladesh Chapter. The talk stated how to reduce standby power



BRAC Student Develops one of Top 3 Software in Bangladesh

The first ever software application development contest in Bangladesh ended on 31 October 2010 with a gala award night and prize giving ceremony at Pan-Pacific Sonargaon Hotel Ballroom. The organizers, Grameenphone Ltd and Microsoft, awarded Shibbir Imtiaz Hasan, a student of Department of Computer Science and Engineering, BRAC University, the position of 1st runner-up in the software application contest "Finder Ultimate". A jury board consisting of Grameenphone and Microsoft officials, industry professionals and academicians selected the winners. Shibbir is the only student in the top three positions to have been awarded as an individual. He received the award, certificate and prizes from Architect Yeafesh Osman, State Minister, Ministry of Science and Information and Communication Technology; Grameenphone CEO, Ashoke Hoojadel; Country Manager Microsoft Bangladesh, Feroz Mahmud; and Mahboob Zaman, President of Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS) were also present on stage. The Chairperson of Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Prof. Munir Khan was also present at the gala event. Shibbir's software has been featured in a number of national newspapers including The daily Star, Jugantor,Prothom Alo etc.

Publications

a. Chapter of a book

1. Salam, M. S., "Solution to

Short-term Unit Commitment Problem", Handbook of Power Systems I, 1st Edition, Springer, 2010, pp. 255-292.

b. Journal Publications

1. C.Hosak, C. Chowdhury and A.M.Azad*, IEEE Member "Reliability Improvement for DPDC SCADA Communication Network" Journal of Energy and Power Engineering, Jan. 2010, Volume 4, Issue 1, pp.1-6, ISSN 1934-8975, USA.

2. M. Hossain, E. Mohith and A.Azad, "Solar Home Systems in Bangladesh - A case study of Khagrachari", Proceedings of International Conference of Renewable Energy: Generation and Applications 2010, Al-Ain, UAE

3. Nazmus Saquib, Md. Sabbir Rahman Sakib, and Al-Sakib Khan Pathan, "Demo Abstract: VOSM: A MANET Routing Simulation Demonstration Tool for Naïve Users", The 29th IEEE Conference on Computer

without compromising device performance, and thereby sustaining Moore's law for post-CMOS. Ahad's seminar revealed challenges of the low dimensional structures were also discussed.

USAID funded Research work and seminar

During October 2010 a research team comprising Research Professor Dr. Md. Quamrul Ahsan, Professor Dr. Md. Sayeed Salam, Supriyo Shankar Ahmed and Redwood Ibnat Sadique conducted research on Transparent Power Transmission Access (TPTA) and Reliability Regulations (including Grid Code and Pricing Code) funded by USAID. Professor Dr. Md. Quamrul Ahsan shared the team's research and findings on best practice regulations of the area of Bangladesh case study recommendations. Professor Dr. Md. Sayeed Salam shared the team's research and findings on best practice regulations on power transmission in Bangladesh case study pricing findings utilizing the IEEJ's software 2000 and pricing transmission regulation. The seminar was organized by Transparent Power & Energy Access (TEA) on Transparent Power Transmission Operations & Reliability Regulations (including Grid Code and Pricing Case Studies).The seminar was held on 14 October 2010 at the Westin, Gulshan, Dhaka. The TEA is a USAID funded project designed to improve Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission's (BERC) and BERC stakeholders' capacity to enable a progressive and beneficial energy regulatory environment in Bangladesh.

CSE Faculty attends an ITU workshop

Sadia Hamid Kazi was invited by ITU (International Telecommunication Union) to participate in the 2010 ITU ICT4LEARN Global Forum to be held in Busan, Republic of Korea (30 November – 2 December 2010) and which was followed by a 2-day event focusing on Internet Training Centre activities (3-4 December 2010). Backed by ITU, the leading United

Nations agency for information and communication technology (ICT) issues, ICT4LEARN is a bureau that takes a lead role in building human capabilities and skills that foster the development of knowledge economies. ICT-LEARN 2010 was hosted by the Korea Communications Commission and took place at the Busan Exhibition and Convention Center (BEXCO) in Busan, Republic of Korea.

IEEE Distinguished Lecture On "Outcome-based Education For Learning To Learn" By Prof. Rashid

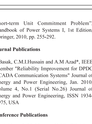
On 23 December, a seminar on "Outcome-based Education for Learning to Learn" was organized by IEEE BRAC University,Bangladesh in collaboration with Control and Applications Research Group (CARG). The speaker was Prof. Muhammad H. Rashid. Dr. Rashid is a renowned personality in the field of electronics and power engineering. He has published more than a dozen books, has more than 136 technical papers bearing his name, and has taught in the University of Connecticut, Florida International, Purdue University in USA and King Fahd University in Saudi Arabia. He was also involved with Brush Electrical Machines Ltd. and Lucas Group Research Centre.

Dr. Azad gave an introductory opening speech and the chairperson of the EEE department, Prof. Syed Salam, presented a crest and a welcome gift to Dr. Rashid. Faculty members from School of Electrical and Computer Science together with many enthusiastic students were present in the seminar. Dr. Rashid started his presentation which was filled with motivations to progress in life, how to think like an engineer, and other inspirational topics. The presentation was all about how we should be learning. During the seminar, Dr. Rashid also showed a book that he wrote titled "Microelectronics-Circuits, Analysis and Design" Many engineering schools around the world follow his book.

Awards/Achievements

CRBLP Research Wins BASIS IT Innovation Search Award in SOFTEXPO 2010

Katha - a CRBLP-developed software to translate Bangla text to speech was chosen as the



Best Innovative Project during BASIS SOFTEXPO 2010. Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS), the national trade association of software and IT enabled services companies of Bangladesh, recently held its annual conference BASIS SOFTEXPO 2010 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre. One of the major events at the expo this year was an IT Innovation Search Program to recognize innovative and reward local innovations in IT. The BASIS Board selected 3 finalists - two of which were BRAC's CRBLP research outputs - to highlight during the expo. The other finalist from CRBLP was Bangla OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software that can convert images of printed Bangla text to editable text. The Katha Research Team consists of Firoj Alam, S. M. Murtoza Habib, Kamrul Hayder and Naira Khan; the Bangla OCR team consists of Md. Abul Hasnat, Mutakabbir Rahman Chowdhury, S. M. Murtoza Habib and Dil Afroza Sultana. Professor Munir Khan, Head of the Centre for Research on Bangla Language Processing (CRBLP), received the award on behalf the CRBLP Research Team at the ceremony.

Appointments/Arrivals/Departures

a. Dr. Md. Mosaddequr Rahman has joined as Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) on 29 August 2010. He got his Ph.D from Nagoya Institute of Technology, Nagoya, Japan. He was working as a research associate at University of Windsor, Windsor, Canada before joining at BRAC University. He has also served as a faculty in the Department of Electrical Engineering at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals from 2003-2005. His research interests are mainly in the areas of micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) based sensors and actuators, and solar energy materials and solar cells.

b. Dr. Mohammed Belal Hossain Bhuian joined as Assistant Professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) on 2 January 2010. He completed his PhD from Tyndall National Institute at University College Cork, Ireland in 2007. He was working as a Post-doctoral researcher in Laser Zentrum Hannover (LZH) in Germany prior to joining at BRAC university. His main research interests are nonlinear lithography using ultrafast laser and nanophotonics.

c. Nazmus Saquib, Lecturer, left for higher studies in University of Manitoba (Canada) on 12 August 2010.

d. Mehedi Z. Sadi, Lecturer, left for higher studies in University of California, Riverside on 31 August 2010.

e. Rudsawad Hassan Siddique, Lecturer, left for higher studies to Europe on 30 September 2010 under the prestigious Erasmus Mundus scholarship.

f. Asmajar Alim Rasel,Rumana Rahman and Farish Mahzabeen were promoted to the position of Lecturer I during August 2010.

Tours/Visits/Picnics

IEEE Technical Tour of Civil Aviation Radar Station and Operations Center

This was the first Technical Tour arranged by IEEE BRAC University Student Branch in 2010. Through spontaneous participation of the IEEE Student Members, the event was a total success. Under the Malaysia sun of 29 March, IEEE BRAC University Student Branch members, under the supervision of Faculty members from School of Engineering and Computer Science, BRAC University and a generous co-operation from Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, organized a technical tour to Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport to study some of the control operations. This technical tour comprised of thirty-six IEEE Student Members and five BRAC University Faculty members. Students were given an idea on the function of Radar system to produce an image of Bangladesh's total air space, showing location of any aircrafts within the country's air territory. The radar data is then provided to the Air Traffic Control Tower constantly interacting with the aircrafts over the country's air space.Students were also shown the Nav Aid System, a control unit placed quite far away from the runway with radial units that had numerous metal receivers enclosed on them. Under all this was a small room which consisted of the monitoring devices. These devices monitor and provide navigational data to the aircrafts and other control rooms.





A Visit to BTCL House

A group of 23 ECE students of BRAC University who are enrolled in the course Telecommunication and Switching System (ECE 330), under the department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, visited the head office of BTCL (Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Ltd. Moghbazar Telephone Bhaban) on 23 June 2010. The team was led by Supriyo Shankar Ahmed and Md. Shamsul Kamrul Hossain, Lecturers of the School of Engineering and Computer Science. The whole team was guided by the officials from BTCL throughout the visit. The students were exposed to the different types of telephone exchanges BTCL has; mainly the local exchanges and the international exchange. Moreover the students got some practical experience about real world problems. The students had a lot of interaction with the BTCL officials and in return they earned a lot of experience about how the telephone calls are actually being made from one phone to the other. The field trip was organized to blend theory with practice.

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES (DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED)

Annual Certificate Awarding Dinner of IEEE Bangladesh Section

The 2010 Annual Certificate Awarding Dinner of IEEE Bangladesh Section was arranged on 13 February at BUET Cafeteria. This is an annual event of IEEE Bangladesh Section intended to award certificates to those who take part in technical talks and seminars round the year under various IEEE sponsored events. The Chief Guest

was Dr. A. M. M. Safiullah, Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). Other respected guests included the chairpersons of IEEE Bangladesh Section, IEEE Power Engineering Society Bangladesh Chapter, IEEE GOLD Bangladesh Chapter and members of IEEE computer societies. Student members from various student branches also attended the dinner ceremony. Eight student members of IEEE BRAC University Student Branch attended the dinner along with the branch counselor Dr. Ahmed S. A. Azad, who is also appointed as the "Professional Activities Coordinator" of IEEE Bangladesh Section.

BUECC Study Tour

From 1-3 May 2010, BUECC organized a study tour to Cox's Bazar. During the trip, students visited the Radar Station, Beach Sand Mineral Exploration Center and the Cyber Cafe landing station. The trip provided the students with the hands on knowledge about the submarine cable and the radar applications available in Bangladesh.

BUECC Power Station Visit

On 3 and 30 April 2010, BUECC organized trips to the Shiddhirganj power plant and Kamalbil Hydro station respectively to make students familiar to real life power plants. This trip not only made the study of power systems easier but also helped students to concentrate on the recent power crises of Bangladesh and come up with possible solutions through their theses work.

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AN AUTOMATED CONTROLLER FOR A 350 L UNINTERRUPTABLE SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEM

Control and Applications Research Group (CARG) of Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering in BRAC University took the initiative to develop a user-friendly automatic solar hot water system with additional storage tank. The initiative was taken by a group of thesis students under the supervision of Dr. AKM Abdul Malek Azad, Associate Professor, BRAC University. The system consists of a 150 liter solar hot water collector for heating water, a 350 liter storage tank for storing the heated water, an electric water heater for heating water when the weather is not favorable for the solar collector to work and a control unit. The whole

system is automatic and does not require any sort of human intervention other than turning the system on/off. The cost analysis of the system showed that the payback of the system is around 5 years i.e. within five years they will be enough electricity to compensate the initial price of the system. The system has been tested for its stability and is also implemented at the university's cafeteria and Guest House.

Robotics Display of SECS Students

The School of Engineering and Computer Science, BRAC U. organized a Robotics Project display on 12 August 2010. Undergraduate students majoring in Computer Science, Electrical, Electronics and Communication fields participated on the display with 8 of their projects. The Chairperson of the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Prof. Sayeed Salam, as well as other faculty members of SECS was present during the demonstration of the projects. Some of the projects displayed were: Remotely control home appliances by SMS, industrial robotic arm, humanoid robot to detect weather information, rotatable solar panels, light and sound level detecting spy robot, line follower robot etc. The event allowed the students from all departments to know about the student thesis and

research projects which are going on by SECS students. It has become an inspiration for new students to start new projects of their own using the latest technologies that are out there.

IEEE BRAC University Student Branch Celebrated IEEE Day 2010

On the 7 October 2010 IEEE BRACU Student Branch members went on an educational technical tour to the Atomic Energy Research Establishment (AERE) to celebrate the globally recognized IEEE Day 2010 theme. The members spent the whole day appreciating the contributions of IEEE and technology leaders at the same time learning about nuclear physics and sub-atomic particles.

About 20 IEEE BRAC University Student members joined the tour, supervised by Nazmus Saquib, lecturer of SECS. The first stop was at the Nuclear Accelerator Center where the students were taken through a tour developing project. One of the project designers from Holland briefly explained the functions of the accelerator.Students then visited the Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology (INST) where they develop various products (isotopes, etc). The students also had the privilege of seeing a neutron generator at first hand, and got to learn more about its functionalities.Students also got to view the IMW TRIGA Mark-II Research Reactor. They saw the main reactor and the core and also the control rooms from where the scientists and researchers operate the experiments.

School of Law BRAC University

The School of Law at BRAC University

Introduction:

Founded in 2004, the School of Law at BRAC University is a gateway through which students are prepared for careers in law, in administrative services, the judiciary and in the development sector. The four year undergraduate programme at the School of Law culminates into a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) degree for successful students. Although the primary emphasis of the programme is on law and the legal profession, given that Law is also intertwined with economics, development, business and sociology, it also prepares students who are inclined to seek professions in other disciplines.

The faculties of the School of Law are hand-picked for their academic excellence and individual expertise. They bring with them teaching-learning experiences from Universities in the United Kingdom, Australia, Russia, the United States of America and Bangladesh. The faculty have individual expertise in the areas of child rights, criminal law, consumer laws, gender studies, business laws, economics, international laws and human rights; all which are shared with the students in course work and in workshops and lecture programmes organised by the School. In 2010, eminent persons such as Mr. Muhammad Zamir, Chief Information Commissioner; Gabrielle Dereghetti, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Switzerland; and Mr. Abbas Faiz, Senior Researcher for South Asia, Amnesty International, have given lectures as guests of the School of Law.



Faculty Meeting, School of Law, BRAC University.

The School of Law has a Law Club (with Dr. Saira Rahman Khan as its adviser) and a Moot Court Society (with Dr. Tureen Afroz as its adviser), where students are constantly engaged in practising for moot court competitions, writing research papers and articles for the Law Club newsletter 'Acumen' and planning lecture programmes and social awareness activities. The mooters have been successful in several national and international competitions, including the prestigious ICRC Henry Dunant Moot Court Competitions. They are a force to be reckoned with in the national arena. In November 2010, the Moot Court Society published an easy-reading version of the Constitution of the People' Republic of Bangladesh – called 'Amader Shongbidhan'. Throughout 2010, the monthly BU Law Club newsletter 'Acumen' has grown to become an interesting and informative fixture within BRAC University.

Recognising BRAC's background and the goals and commitments of BRAC University, the School of Law endeavours to impart legal education to seek legal solutions that respect social, cultural and aesthetic needs of the people. To meet this goal, it strives to impart to its students not only the tenets of the law, but also legal philosophy, rights-based issues and a broader awareness of the society they live in. Graduates from the School of Law are now pursuing careers as lawyers, judges, corporate legal officers, development workers and academics.

The following paragraphs give a brief description of the activities of the faculty members and the students of the School of Law, BRAC University, for 2010.

1. Lectures:

- Prof. Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Director (part time) School of Law gave a lecture on "Positive Law and Natural Law theory" at a programme hosted by the Asiatic Society in June 2010.
- Prof. K. Shamsuddin Mahmood, Head of Undergraduate Programme, had given lectures in the Research and Training Centre of Bangladesh Association of Banks while periodically invited by them in 2010. He has given lectures on several occasions relating to Labour and Industrial Relations organized by the Bangladesh Airlines Training Centre (BATC). He has also delivered lectures on law of Contract, Bankruptcy and Property law while invited by Training Institutes of Banks.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan gave a lecture on 'Acid Violence: Cause, Consequences and Legal Redress' at the 'Voices of Scholars (VoS) programme, hosted by the Asian University for Women on 25th November 2010. She was also the guest lecturer for the Human Rights course at the same University and gave a lecture to the students on "Torture: Bangladesh and Human Rights Obligations", on the same day.

2. Conference/ Seminar/Talk/ Workshop (Chaired or presented paper) :

A. Conferences organised by the School of Law

- The School of Law, in collaboration with the ESS Department organised a one-day seminar on 'Investment Climate Fund' on June 2010 under an IFC Project. Dr. Tureen Afroz was the focal point for the School of Law.
- The School of Law, in collaboration with the Institute for Governance Studies organised a two-day workshop on 'Synchronising Energy Laws and Policies'on 23-24 June and a one-day seminar on 30 June on energy laws and energy policies at the Westin, Dhaka under a USAID Project. Dr. Tureen Afroz was the focal point for the School of Law and presented an academic research paper at the one-day seminar, while Dr. Saira Rahman Khan gave the welcome address and the concluding remarks and also prepared the workshop summary report.
- The School of Law, in collaboration with the

Institute for Governance Studies organised a one-day seminar on 14 October on 'Transparent Power Transmission Operations and Reliability Regulations (including Grid Code and Cross Border Synchronization)' at the Westin, Dhaka under a USAID Project. Dr. Tureen Afroz was the focal point for the School of Law.

B. Individual Faculty Participation and Presentations

- Dr. Tureen Afroz presented a paper titled The Issues of Regulatory Governance in the Securities Market: SEC Playing 'Horatius at the Bridge' at the research and training workshop on 17 January 2010 at AIUB campus-1. The workshop was organised under the Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF) Academic Partnership Program between Economic Research Group and BRAC University.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan, Assoc. Prof presented a paper on ''The practice of the Death penalty in Bangladesh'' at the Amnesty International-ADAPAN meeting on 24 February 2010, at the International Conference against the Death Penalty, Geneva, Switzerland, on 24-26 February 2010.
- Dr. Afroz presented a paper on Importance of Law & Order: Allowing the Worker 'Constructive Voice' at the Energy Roundtable organized by the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission and the USAID at Dhaka on 6 April 2010.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan presented a paper on "The Family Courts: Justice for All?" at the 7th Asian Law Institute Conference hosted by the Anwar Ibrahim Kulliyah of Laws, International Islamic University of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 25 – 26 May 2010.
- Dr. Afroz presented a paper on Polygamy in Bangladeshi Muslim Society: The Legal Context at the 7th Asian Law Institute Conference: organised by the International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 25-26 May 2010.

- Dr. Afroz presented a paper titled Budgetary Allocation for Law and Justice: An Exploratory Analysis at a Seminar organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA) on 26 June 2010.
- Ms. Mahua Zahur has participated in a workshop as a trainee on Synchronizing Bangladesh Energy Laws and Policy, held at the Westin on 30 June 2010. the workshop was a larger programme on the energy sector in Bangladesh jointly organized by the School of Law and USAID.
- Ms. Taslima Yasmin presented a paper titled "Access to Public Legal Education: Lessons for a Developing Country like Bangladesh" at the Annual Conference of the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) in Southampton, UK from 13-16 September. 2010.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan was a resource person and interviewee, in the documentary on dowry violence in Bangladesh, produced for the programme '101 East' which was aired on Al Jazeera through October 2010
- Dr. Afroz presented a paper on Community Policing in Bangladesh: Running over the Hurdles at the Regional Conference on 'The 21st Century and Policing in South Asia' organised by the Ministry of Human Rights (Pakistan), Islamabad Police and Rozan , Pakistan(NGO), 5 -6 October 2010.
- Ms. Mahua Zahur has participated as a trainee in a workshop on Intellectual Property Rights in Bangladesh organised by IDLO (International Development Law Organization) jointly with Amir and Amir Associates, held at hotel Lake Shore from 31 October -4 November.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan presented a research paper on 'Aspects of Violence against Women in South Asia' in commemoration of International Day on Violence against Women, at the Tuesday /Thursday Afternoon Learning Extra-sessions (TALEs) programme organised by the Asian University for Women, Chittagong, Bangladesh on 25 November 2010.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan attended the NGO Forum to the Bali Democracy Forum III organised by Forum-Asia and the Alliance of Independent Journalists, Indonesia, from 8 – 9 December 2010, in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia. She presented two research papers at the forum: "Torture and Bangladesh: Laws and Reality' and State of Human Rights and Democracy in Bangladesh. She also chaired the session on 'Independence of Judiciary' on 9 December 2010.



Dr. Saira Rahman Khan giving a talk on violence against women at the Asian University for Women, Chittagong. November 2010

3. Publications/ Books

- Rahman Khan, S, 'To the Victor Goes the Spoils: Putting Wartime Rape on Trial', in Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity in Bangladesh: Trial under International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973' (Forum for Secular Bangladesh and Trial of War Criminals of 1971, 18 June 2010).

- Afroz, T (ed.), Amader Shongbidhan (Dhaka: BRAC University Publishers Ltd., 2010).
- Afroz, T (ed.), Genocide, War Crimes & Crimes against Humanity in Bangladesh: Trial Under International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973 (Dhaka: Forum for Secular Bangladesh and Trial of War Criminals of 1971, 2010).
- Afroz, T, 'Trial of War Criminals and Legal Comments on IBA (International Bar Association) Recommendations relating to 1973 Act' in Easy Reading of the 1973 Act and the Trial of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity and the War Crimes of 1971 (Forum for Secular Bangladesh, 2010).
- Yasmin, T, 'Impact of International Arbitration Proceeding: Governmental Approach and Investment Climate in Bangladesh' (Economic Research Group. Working Paper 1/2010 Investment Climate Series)

4. Research:

- Prof. Shamsuddin Mahmud was engaged as Legal Specialist by IETS Consulting Services Ltd for formulation of National Guideline on Water Safety Framework (WSF) in Bangladesh. Sponsored by DANIDA
- Prof. Shamsuddin Mahmud has served as an Environmental Legal Consultant under Dhaka Integrated Environmental and Water Resources Management Project (DIEWRMP) towards 'water quality and industry pollution monitoring system, feasibility and engineering studies' in collaboration with SWECO of Sweden and IWM and BETS of Bangladesh. A World Bank project.
- Prof. Shamsuddin Mahmud has participated as Legal Expert in the Institutional Development Consulting Services under 'Karnaffully Water Supply Project' Chittagong, Bangladesh (ongoing) in collaboration with NJS of Japan. Funded by JAICA.
- Dr. Saira Rahman Khan and Ms. Mahua Zahur commenced a research work on Women's Property Rights in Bangladesh in December 2010. Expected date of completion of the research is in June 2011.
- Ms. Sanjana Sadique conducted a research on Environmental Terrorism- A legal and ethical analysis from an environmental perspective which is pending for publication.
- Dr. Tureen Afroz won the research project on investment climate fund program of the IFC – supervised by the Economics and Social Science department of BRACU. Her research paper was titled, The Issues of Regulatory Governance in the Securities Market: SEC Playing 'Horatius at the Bridge'.

5. 2010 Appointments:

- Ms. Sanjana Sadique joined as Junior Lecturer on 1 November 2010.
- Ms. Mahua Zahur – joined as Junior Lecturer on 1 December 2010.

6. Student Activities:

- Students taking Criminal Law (Law 302) and Human Rights (Law 447) in Spring 2010 attended a conference on "The Need to Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court" organised by the human rights organisation Odhikar, on 02 March 2010.
- Four students of the School of Law were volunteers at a 2-day workshop on Energy

Regulation Laws and Policies in Bangladesh, held at the Westin Hotel in June 2010.

- Three senior students of the School of Law worked as volunteers for 3 months each at the human rights organization, Odhikar. Their main activities were to carry out legal research, translate documents from Bangla to English, tabulate various data on human rights issues and assist in organizing conferences and workshops.
- In November 2010 two students attended the National Advocacy Workshop for Youth Leaders, Bangladesh with the facilitation of Commonwealth Youth Programme, Asia Center and Commonwealth Youth Network Bangladesh.
- Law School student, Shahreen Srabon Tillotomma was a Commonwealth Election Observer, appointed by the Democracy and Politics Division, Commonwealth Secretariat from Bangladesh during the National Parliamentary Elections in Solomon Islands from 28th July to 12th August, 2010, and successfully accomplished the Election observation Mission with the Commonwealth Observer Group and UN Election Observers.

7. Activities of Department Clubs

A. Activities of Moot Court Society, BRAC University (MCS-BU)

The Moot Court Society of BRAC University (MCS-BU) took its first official step on 26 February 2010. However the dream to build a moot court society began much earlier when the School of Law sent its first team to National Law School of India University (NSLIU), Bangalore.

With the goal to create a group of intellectual minds the MCS-BU has been engaged in international laws since its inception. Through extensive training, it offers golden opportunity of getting the taste of courtroom advocacy in front of an adjudicator. Keeping in mind the desire to uphold academic excellence, membership of MCS-BU till today strictly maintains CGPA of 3.40 and above as the basic requirement. At present MCS-BU have 23 members.

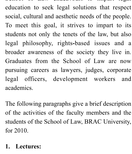
Achievements of MCS-BRACU in 2010:

- The year 2010 began with a ranking as top ten Best Memorial Award in the IHL Moot Court Competition (Hong Kong). This was the first time for a Bangladeshi team to get recognized for the Memorial (scholarly research) at an International level. The team included M. Sanjeeb Rahman, Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat and Muhsina Farhat Chowdhury. The team was coached by Dr. Tureen Afroz.
- MCS-BU team was awarded with 'Commendable Performance' at the Louis Brown Client Counseling Competition in Hong Kong in March 2010. The team ranked 12th in the world. The team included Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat and Muhsina Farhat Chowdhury. The team was coached by Dr. Tureen Afroz.
- In June-July 2010 the MCS-BU organized a two day workshop on 'Art of Advocacy and Persuasive Oral Submission'. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Tureen Afroz. The selected members of the MCS-BU attended the workshop.
- In July–August 2010, the MCS-BU co-organized the BRACU Inter-University National Debate Festival, Muktijuddho, Juddho Oporadhider Bichar O' Ajker Tarunno. In this festival, MCS-BU General Secretary, Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat, was adjudged the Best Speaker at the Public Speaking Competition.

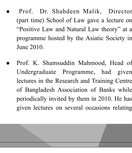
- The MCS-BU team became 'Runner Up' at the 6th National Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition in 2010. The team also won the Best Memorial Award at the competition. The team included Monira Nazme Jahan, Subrata Ghosh Shuvo and S M Hasib Mahmood. The team was coached by Dr. Tureen Afroz.
- The MCS-BU did something different and challenging, that is writing a book named 'Amader Shongbidhan'. On 7 November 2010 the MCS-BU celebrated the Constitution Day and launched the book. This was the first publication of BRAC University Press Ltd. Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, the Minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, was the Chief Guest at the launching ceremony. The special guests at the ceremony were Dr. Kamal Hossain, Chairman of the Constitution Drafting Committee; Dr. Shah Alam, Acting Chairman of the Law Commission-Bangladesh; Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission and Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Director of the School of Law of BRAC University. The book was highly reviewed by renowned Constitutional Experts of Bangladesh.
- At the end of 2010 four members of MCS-BU along with three students of School of Law were selected by the Copyrights Integrity International (CII) through a competitive interview, to work in the Rights Protection Program of International Cricket Council (ICC). The students who worked for the ICC were allocated to work in the matches of ICC Cricket World Cup, 2011 that were held in Bangladesh. The selected students who represented MCS-BU in the program were, Muhsina Farhat Chowdhury, Kazi Tuney Binte Zinnat, Nameera Ahmed, Naimul



Top ten Best Memorial in the IHL Moot Court Competition (2010)



Runner-Up - 6th Henry Dunant Moot Court Competition (National 2010)



Publication of ''Amader Songbidhan'' the easy to read version of the Constitution of Bangladesh

B. Activities of BU Law Club: 2010

The BU Law Club was founded in Fall 2009, the first President being Shahreen Srabon Tillottoma. Its adviser is Dr. Saira Rahman Khan, Associate Professor, School of Law. The BU Law Club was found on the basis that everyone should be aware of the law and their rights and that students of Law should also be social activists. BU Law Club members have volunteered in human rights organisations, taken part in awareness-raising initiatives and carry out research for short reports in the awareness-raising news letter 'Acumen', which is published every month and distributed throughout the University. Future plans (from 2011) include school visits on the issue of 'rights' and 'child rights', lecture programmes and local level informal discussions. This not only fulfils the objectives of the BU Law Club, but also encourages the members to learn how to utilize their knowledge of law; expand their knowledge base and hone their oratory, organisation and research skills.

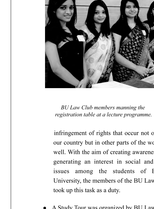
The following activities were carried out by the BU Law Club in 2010:

- A lecture on "The Legal Implications of Sexual Harassment" was organized by BU Law Club on Tuesday, 16 February, 2010 at 4 pm in CB 601 in BRAC University. Advocate Fawzia Karim Firoze, Advocate Supreme Court, gave the lecture. She talked about laws and regulations relating to sexual harassment in Bangladesh and recent cases where the Court had laid down guidelines defining 'sexual harassment' and why it was a punishable offence. On 12 March 2010, Abbas Faiz, Senior Researcher, South Asia for Amnesty International gave a talk on "Violence against Women", as a host of the BU Law Club, in CB 602.
- BU Law Club published the first issue of their Newsletter, "Acumen". The Law Club believes that it is everyone's right to know the laws that govern our daily lives and to raise awareness about the

BU Law Club members manning the registration table at a lecture programme.

infringement of rights that occur not only in our country but in other parts of the world as well. With the aim of creating awareness and generating an interest in social and legal issues among the students of BRAC University, the members of the BU Law Club took up this task as a duty.

- A Study Tour was organized by BU Law Club to the District Judge Court, at Gazipur. The Study Tour is a practical experience for law students to understand court room proceedings and the ways of the Court and the lawyers. This practical learning experience enhances their theoretical knowledge. The Law Club plans to organise such study tours every year, for students after completing a certain amount of credits and courses.
- BU law Club and School of Law, BRAC University organised a lecture on "Human Rights and Humanitarian Law" on 4th December to observe Human Rights Day. Mr. Gabriele Dereghetti, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Switzerland and Mr. Muhammad Zamir, Chief Information Commissioner, Government of Bangladesh were the guest speakers. Dr. Shahdeen Malik gave the welcome address while Dr. Saira Rahman Khan presented a paper on the need for Law students to also be human rights defenders. The Registrar of BRACU, Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury gave a brief commentary on the Geneva Conventions and the law of war. A poster exhibition was also set up, with posters on human rights issues contributed by various organisations.



Seminar and poster exhibition on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University

Introduction

The School's name honours the late James P Grant, former Executive Director of UNICEF, whose relentless pursuit of a global revolution in child survival in the 1980s is a legacy the School aims to promote for global health for the 21st century. The School was founded in 2004 as a collaborative effort between BRAC University, BRAC, and ICDDR,B. These three institutions offer dynamic and diverse learning laboratories for the School's education, research, and leadership programmes. Based in Bangladesh, the School has access to a unique laboratory to study and address the magnitude and diversity of health challenges – from communicable, chronic to disease-related threats- and the presence of some of the most innovative and successful public health and development programs in the world. The three programmes which define the School are education, research, and leadership.

Academic Calendar 2010

No	Courses
MPH 501	Introduction to Public Health
MPH 512	Anthropological Approaches to Public Health
MPH 511	Qualitative Research Methods
MPH 531	Biostatistics (1)
MPH 520	Quantitative Research Methods
MPH 521	Biostatistics (2)
MPH 522	Epidemiology Mixed Method Workshop
MPH 531	Health Economics & Healthcare Financing
MPH 530	Health Systems Management Knowledge Fair
MPH 661	Aging & Health
MPH 681	Environment & Health
MPH 660	Reproductive & Sexual Health & Rights
MPH 690	Principles of Health Communication
MPH 691	M&E of Public Health Programmes
MPH 670	Public Health Nutrition
MPH 620	Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases
MPH 692	Health & Development Series
MPH 700	Independent Field Study – Thesis Integration Workshop

Sixth Graduates' Forum

At the start of the year, the sixth batch students completed their MPH programme by a grand graduation form held at Kuakawa Auditorium on January 23, 2010. The scene was quite jubilant as the MPH graduates in colorful traditional attire socializing with their peers, families, and teachers and mentors.

Two students, one national and one international, were peer-selected to speak of their experiences in Bangladesh and in the MPH programme on behalf of the student body. The selected people were Mrs Raj Kishore and Asmin Pervin.

Dr Sabina F Rashid, Associate Professor & MPH Coordinator, provided a brief overview of the expectations of the MPH dissertations and introduced the two students whose theses were selected at random to be presented to the audience.

The forum was concluded by Professor Aman Nishat congratulating the student body and wishing them good fortune. The forum was followed by a MPH final thesis poster presentation, where the graduates shared their experiences with families, friends, faculty, and potential students.

Centres and Research Activities

Bangladesh Health Watch 2010

Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW) launched their third report titled: "How Healthy is Health Sector Governance in Bangladesh?" on 13 February, 2010. The report was launched by Nobel Laureate Professor Amartya Kumar Sen. Prof. (Dr.) Syed Modassar Ali, Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister, Health & Family Welfare and Social Welfare Affairs and Dr. Capt. (Retd.) Ashfaqur Rahman Jiku, Honorable State Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh, were also present as Special Guests. Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue was the Chief Guest in the launching programme. After the launch the key findings of the report were presented by BHW working group member Dr. Md. Khaleduzzaman Laskar. Founded in 2006, Bangladesh Health Watch also organized a Press Conference at the National Press Club on 13 February, 2010. The Press Conference were chaired by Professor Aman Nishat, chair of BHW Advisory Committee Members.

Centre for Gender, Sexuality & HIV/AIDS

Psychological Debriefing for Researchers

A psychological debriefing session for research staff members of Phase-II was held on 4 June, 2010 by Nuzhat Chowdhury, Research Associate, who is also a trained psychologist. The research teams from gender-based violence research and Creating Resources for Empowerment and Action (CREA)'s violence against marginalized women research projects participated in this session.

JPGSPH PROJECT - 913

Establishment of District AIDS Committee (DAC)

JPGSPH provided technical support to PTACT (PPSH) in the establishment of 20 DACs in Bangladesh. A District AIDS Committee (DAC) is the Project Implementation Specialist and Field Research Officers of JPGSPH attended the DAC formation meetings and orientation on TOR and basics of HIV and AIDS. The project provided technical support in facilitating the orientation and classroom training sessions held for the participants. A total of three DACs have been established in Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mehrpur districts in May 2010. With these three, a total of nine DACs have been established. There were no such committees to coordinate and monitor the HIV prevention activities in the districts earlier. It is a collaborative project between National AIDS/STD Programme (NASP), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Save the Children USA and JPGSPH, BRAC University consortium.

Agreement signing with Save the Children Federation for the project on AIDS prevention project under Global Fund ROUND

An agreement has been signed between Save the Children Federation Inc and James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University consortium in Implementation of the project titled "Building and strengthening the technical and institutional capacity of government, NGOs, and implementing partners"

under The Global Fund, RCC (Rolling Continuation Channel). This agreement confirms the continuation of the project from December, 2009 to January, 2012. Subsequently, the JPGSPH has signed the agreement with its associate partners for implementation of the planned activities. The partners of the consortium are Population Council, NIPSOM, Concerned Women for Family Development (CWFD) and PIACT Bangladesh.

Training on HIV/AIDS related Issues, Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (GFATM-BCC project)

A 3-week course on HIV/AIDS related issues, management, monitoring and evaluation was organized by GFATM-BCC project, Centre for tribal Building and Strengthening the Technical and Institutional Capacities of Government, NGOs, and Implementing Partners is part of the project titled "Building and Strengthening the Technical and Institutional Capacity of Rolling Continuation Channel (RCC). The main purpose of the course was to contribute to better management and quality implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention programmes at the field level through developing the capacity of the mid level managers. The course took place on 26 September– 14 October, 2010 at BRAC University, Savar, Dhaka. A total of 33 staff members participated in the course. The participants of the course are expected to disseminate the HIV prevention information at the grassroots level and facilitate HIV related training both in their own organization and other organizations in a professional manner. All the participants have given commitment that they will work at HIV prevention activities/projects in the country. Throughout the course, the issue of coordination among the government and non-government organizations working in prevention of HIV and integration of the HIV prevention activities at District and Upazila level was emphasized. Additionally, two 3-day courses on HIV/AIDS related issues, management, monitoring and evaluation were jointly organized and funded by GFATM (RCC).

Health & Development Seminar Series

Human Resources in Bangladesh Health Sector

Dr. Muhammad Abdus Sabur, Team Leader of the Programme Support Office (PSO) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in Government of Bangladesh presented on Human Resources in Bangladesh Health Sector on 15 April, 2010. Dr. Sabur outlined on the complexity in Bangladesh health sector, especially the HRH issues. He mentioned that there is an unbalanced rate maldistribution, HRH skill-mix imbalance and other issues in the health sector in Bangladesh.

Chick Diagnostics

Mridul Chowdhury, Chief Executive Officer & Founder of Chick Diagnostic gave a lecture on «Chick Diagnostic's health activities on 29 April 2010. Mr. Mridul shared about how Chick Diagnostics is rapidly emerging as one of the global leaders in the area of mobile telemedicine with operations in several countries in Africa and South Asia and recognized as one of the two USAID Global Development Challenge, MIT 100K Business Competition and Legatum Fortune Technology Prize.

Grand Aid in Bangladesh

On 29 June 2010, Arthur Garson, Jr, the Executive Vice President and Provost of the University of Virginia and Ishrat Robert T. Taylor Professor of Health Science and Public Policy presented on the GRAND-Aid in Bangladesh.

Occupational Medicine

On 14 October 2010, Dr. Carson, Associate Professor at the University of Texas School of Public Health and Program Director of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency, University of Texas Health Science Center, gave a lecture on Occupational Medicine.

Arsenic: who, what, when, where, why & how

Dr. Yan Zheng, Water and Environmental Sanitation, BRAC University Bangladesh, also known for her work on arsenic hydro

geochemistry and health effects in Bangladesh, China, and USA gave a lecture on Arsenic: who, what, when, where, why & how on 26 October 2010. She described how arsenic is contaminating our underground water and how it affects the people in a global perspective.

Seminars/Workshops/Conference

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMME (CEP)

A two-week training course on Tiogendering the Health System in Bangladesh was organized by Health Economics Unit of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh from 12-26 April, 2010. James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) played the role of key recourse in conducting the course.

2nd Annual Training and Knowledge-sharing Workshop on Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC)

The "2nd Annual Training & Knowledge-sharing Workshop on Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC)" was held from 31 January- 6 February 2010 at BRAC Centre Inn. The workshop jointly by the local conference was organized by the Institute of Public Health (IPH), BRAC University and BRAC Health Program with financial assistance from Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives Network, with administration by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). Researchers and public health experts from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka along with two teams from JPGSPH and Gonoshasthaya Kendra participated in the workshop Professor Ronald Labonté of University of Ottawa facilitated most of the sessions along with Dr. Thelma Narayan. A gala dinner was organized on 2 February, 2010 at BRAC Inn. Secretary of Health Mr Shakil Afzal Ali was present at the dinner as Chief Guest. Former Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, chaired the session. Government officials, policy makers, NGO officials, personnel from international agencies, renowned public health professionals and health systems specialist enriched the gala with their kind presence. On 6 February, 2010 a seminar on Globalization and Health was arranged at Kuakawa Auditorium, ICDDR,B. Professor Ronald Labonte, Canada Research Chair on globalization and equity delivered an enlightening speech. Dr. Sabina Faiz Rasheed Choudhury chaired the session. The local member of the multi country HPN network Dr. Mahmuda Akter Islam, Associate Dean and Director of JPGSPH, also made a presentation on Globalization and Health by Dr. Taufique Joarder.

Seminar on Public Mental Health by Dr. Jeap

James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) arranged a seminar on 'Public Mental Health' presented by Dr. Jeap Joseph, Professor of Cultural and International Psychiatry from the VU (Free University) of Amsterdam, University Medical Center, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The seminar was held on the 28th June, 2010 at BRAC Centre. Audience composed of students and faculty of BRAC University and other organizations working in public mental health arena.

Public Health Seminars for BU Students

A series of public health seminars were conducted at BRAC University Savar campus for undergraduate students. Dr. Sabina F Rashid and Dr. Sushmita Sen held a session with 200 undergraduate students of BRAC University on 3 April, 2010 at the Auditorium organized by CFI, BRAC. Dr. Nasima Selim gave a talk on how to take care of the body, mind, and spirit. Dr. Sabina F Rashid gave a talk on sexual and reproductive health concerns of men and women. The lectures were followed by a documentary film and a Q&A session with the students. A gynecologist was present at the seminar to answer any health-related inquiries. There were separate sessions for females and males. The second Public Health Seminar was organized by CFI, at BRAC University Savar Campus on 10 April, 2010. Dr. Sabina F Rashid spoke on physical and mental health as well as sexual and reproductive health concerns were addressed by

Aside from the graduation students and their families, the forum was also attended by the School's faculty and staff, adjunct faculty, supervisors, and examiners from ICDDR,B, BRAC, BRAC University, and international partners.

Dr. James M. Sherry, Chair, Department of Global Health, School of Public Health & Health Services, The George Washington University, talked about leadership in public health in his commencement speech and wished the graduates fortune in all their future endeavors.

Dr. Tim Evans, Dean, congratulated the students on reaching the end of their MPH programme and handed out the certificates.

Every year, bright, dynamic, and enterprising MPH graduates are given awards for their commitment, contribution, and enrichment to the MPH programme. The names of the awards and recipients are provided below. Professor Aman Nishat, Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, presented the awards to the MPH graduates.

Award	Recipients
Allen Rosenfield Award for Best Overall Performance	Momoda Chowdhury
Sir Fazle Hasan Abed Award for Leadership	Farhana Sharmin
WB Grossenspath III award for Best Dissertation	Bidyut Paleraya & Sharmin Akhter Zohan
Richard Cash Award for Best Poster	Sharmin Yasmin & Mohammad Dalar Hossain

Additionally, for the first time this year, faculty members were recognized for their steadfast contribution and commitment to the School and to the students. These awards aim to highlight the exceptional impact and value the faculty members impart on students' learning experience as well as presenting students are given optimal learning experiences.

Award	Recipients
Begum Bakeya Sakhawat Hossain Teaching Excellence Award	Dr. Kazi Mizanur Rahman
Five Years Contribution to the School	Alejandro Cravioto
	Syed Masud Ahmed
	Farsana Ahmed
	Kausar Afsana
	Stephen P. Luby
	Abbas U. Bhuiyan
	Bilqis Amin Hoque
	Alayne Adams
	Tahmeed Ahmed
	Shams El Arifeen
	Kazi Mizanur Rahman
	Richard Cash
	Jon Rohde
	Cole P Dodge
	Zarina Nahar Kabir
	Anwar Islam
	Mahbubia Sarker

Department for International Development (Grant no. HD43). Speakers came from IDS, Africa Governance Monitoring and Research Centre (AFIRC), London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (LSTHM), Uganda Population Council, Engender Health, Nairjobikho, and from the BRAC Research Centre were attended by 150 participants.The conference brought together public health experts and practitioners, academics, activists, advocates, policy makers, and the media in order to disseminate the different reports on the need for taking men's health seriously, and how men's health directly and indirectly affects women's and children's health.

Workshop on Men, Health & Gender Equity

On 2 August, 2010, a workshop on Men, Gender and Equity was held at BRAC Centre, co-sponsored by the Centre for Gender, Sexuality and HIV/AIDS (CGSH), BRAC University and the Realising Rights Research Programme (RRRP), BRAC University. Professor Gary Barker, International Conference on Men's Health which took place the previous day. Both international and national speakers participated and presented at the conference discussing theoretical, practical, and future issues of engaging men's participation in working with men, masculinity, equity, and combating violence against women (VAW).Jerker Edstrom, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, and Alan Greig, Independent Consultant, facilitated the workshop.

One Day Sex Struggle

In order to mark the One Day One Struggle international campaign on sexual and reproductive rights on 9 November, 2010, the Centre for Gender, Sexuality and HIV/AIDS, BRAC University, School of Public Health, Columbia University

- co facilitated a workshop on SRHR for thirty NGOs held on 13 April, 2010 organized by Oxfam Novib and held at BRAC Centre.
- attended a day-long workshop on building a platform for SRH issues on 22 April 22, 2010 organized by Embassy of Embassy of Netherlands and held at the Royal Park Hotel.
- taught the Ethics and Conceptualizing QRM Research Process courses as part of ICDDR,B's Qualitative Research Methodology workshop in 3-4 May, 2010.
- conducted a training session on qualitative research methods for research assistants working for the "Violence against marginalized women in Bangladesh" project at JPGSPH in 24-25 May, 2010.
- participated in the Vienna AIDS Conference 2010. She presented a paper titled "Sexuality & HIV/AIDS" on 22 July, 2010.
- attended the RPC meeting on Challenging

explores issues of sexual violence, gender discrimination, casteism abuse, and other pivotal issues. Also the screening is a discussion on the current state of sexual, body, and reproductive rights of women in Bangladesh took place between the filmmaker and audience. Social, legal, political, gender, and patriarchal issues were highlighted. The audience included students, faculty, staff, activists, researchers, and representatives from the LGBT community.

Academic Study Group (ASG)

Poverty Reduction Programme of BRAC

On 28 February, 2010, ASG was held on the Poverty Reduction Programme conducted by BRAC and presented by Chowdhury SB Iqbal, former Research Associate at BRAC RED. The session included a detailed presentation of the programme and its impacts on the extreme poor community in Bangladesh.

Stop Genocide

In March, a documentary titled "Stop Genocide" by Ashis Rahim was screened in commemoration of the Independence Day of Bangladesh. The screening was followed by a lively group discussion among SPH faculty and staff.

World Health Day 2010: 1000 cities, 1000 lives

On the occasion of the World Health Day 2010, the Academic Study Group (ASG) at James P Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH), BRAC University organized a discussion on 2010 year's theme: 1000 cities, 1000 lives. Professor Dr. Anwar Islam, former Associate Dean & Director of the School chaired the session. Dr. Nasima Selim, Lecturer at the School provided a brief introduction to the theme followed by Dr. Islam elaborating on his article, "Health in mega city of the 21st century" published in Bangladesh Today on New Age on 7 April, 2010. Dr Islam's talk was followed by a brainstorming session by the faculty, researchers and staff of JPGSPH on suggesting steps that can be taken now in real time to improve urban conditions on an individual level, in the workplace, the university and in the greater Dhaka city.

Orthodoxy in HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Health. She presented a paper titled "Sexual Reproductive Health of urban slum dwellers in Dhaka".

- facilitated a sexuality and rights session for international participants at Shoishav Hazel in the first week of August for International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB).
- visited George Washington University during 20-22 October, 2010. She met with the forthcoming GWU students who will spend a semester in the MPH programme. She also gave lectures and was a part of a health systems panel. Additionally, she also scoped future faculty collaborations between GWU and the School.
- visited Columbia University during 24-26 October, 2010. She attended a seminar on changing landscapes of global public health, diverse perspectives and expertise of North-South collaborations, and effective public health strategies.
- attended the 9th International Conference on Urban Health by NY Academy of Medicine on 27 October, 2010.
- was asked to present a lecture on Sensitizing Civil Society members on Marginalized Women's Reproductive Rights in Dhaka in November, 2010. She handed presented on "sexuality and rights" where she discussed heterosexuality and its impact on broader understandings of health, well-being and rights in communities.
- facilitated a workshop for Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) on "Social Exclusion: gender, sexuality and rights"' lessons for Programmes, on 4 November, 2010.
- attended the Montreux meeting and was on a panel 'Intervening in the Informal Sector' and presented a paper on 'Informal Market

a seminar on 'Australian Aboriginal Health' on 25 November. Dr. Ann Larson, Associate Professor of Combined Universities in the Centre for Health and partner at Social Dimension, Australia conducted the workshop and presented a paper at the seminar.

Internships

Interns from the University of Nagasaki spent a few weeks at the School in order to promote research, education, and capacity-building especially in the area of health development between the two institutions. Ten interns and two faculty members from the University visited BRAC and ICDDR,B during this period. The public health is research focused knowledge exchange program. The interns were exposed to management, and program activities and understand the process of problem analysis and formulation of projects. At the end of the visit the students presented reports based on their experience with the School. The visit was from 27 July– 17 August, 2010. This is the third batch of interns from Japan.

Faculty News

Dr. Tim Evans, Dean

- attended the Asian Action Alliance in Bali, Indonesia during 2-3 October, 2010. He gave six presentations related to training of health workers, management, retention strategies, and regional collaborations.
- attended the Global Health Session on 11 October, 2010 in Berlin, Germany. He presided over the session on Health in Mega cities.
- gave a lecture on the future of global health training at the Bocconi University in Milan, Italy on 4 October, 2010.
- hosted along with BRAC, 3 international consultants looking at health insurance provided by BRAC.
- chaired the Global Symposium on Health

Systems Research in Montreux, Switzerland from 16 – 19 November 2010.

- was a guest speaker at a seminar on violence against women on 25 November, 2010. The seminar was organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission Foundation of Bangladesh (PHFBD).
- was a member of the commission launching a global independent report on health professional leadership in the 21st century on 3 November, 2010 in Geneva.
- attended the Board Meeting of the Asia Network on HDS in Philippines on 8 December 2010.

Dr. Sabina F Rashid, Associate Professor & MPH Coordinator

- attended a global public health meeting at Columbia University in New York, USA, 2010. The meeting was organized by the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University
- co facilitated a workshop on SRHR for thirty NGOs held on 13 April, 2010 organized by Oxfam Novib and held at BRAC Centre.
- attended a day-long workshop on building a platform for SRH issues on 22 April 22, 2010 organized by Embassy of Embassy of Netherlands and held at the Royal Park Hotel.
- taught the Ethics and Conceptualizing QRM Research Process courses as part of ICDDR,B's Qualitative Research Methodology workshop in 3-4 May, 2010.
- conducted a training session on qualitative research methods for research assistants working for the "Violence against marginalized women in Bangladesh" project at JPGSPH in 24-25 May, 2010.
- participated in the Vienna AIDS Conference 2010. She presented a paper titled "Sexuality & HIV/AIDS" on 22 July, 2010.
- attended the RPC meeting on Challenging

Dr. Enamul Huda, Lecturer

- had a review paper on climate change and nutrition accepted for presentation at the Canadian Conference on Global Health, Ottawa, Canada.
- presented a paper and a poster at the Canadian Conference on Global Health, Ottawa, Canada held on 31 October -3 November, 2010.

Tasfique Joarder, Research Associate

- successfully completed the Diploma Course in International Health and Policy Evaluation from Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands. The course was jointly organized by International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague; Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam and Institute of Health Policy and Management, Rotterdam. He scored the highest marks among 29 students participating from different countries. His final project titled 'Community based sustainable nutrition project: Integrating students, women, men, religious leaders and the providers' had been awarded the final vote one million dollar for the best project by the jury.
- participated in the First Global Symposium on Health Systems Research, Montreux, Switzerland during 16-19 November, 2010. His MPH thesis poster has been accepted for display at the symposium. The poster is a part of his thesis on the Socio-cultural Dynamics in an Upazila Health Complex: An Exploration.
- attended a training session on scientific writing and effective presentation in the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium following his winning the international scientific essay competition 'Emerging Voices 2010'. He presented his essay in the 52nd Annual Colloquium of Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium during 8-12 November, 2010. He, along with 50 other 'Emerging Voices',

Vol. 375, Issue 9721, Pages 1137-1138

- Han, Q., Chen, L., Evans, T. & Summerski. W (2010) Recent scientific health developments in China. Int Dental Vol. 155, Issue 9720, Pages 1055-1056

Dr. Anwar Islam, former Associate Dean & Director

- published an article on Ensuring Health for All, in New Age, English daily newspaper on 25 February, 2010.
- published a paper titled Traditional Healthcare Systems in Cross Cultural Perspectives: An Overview in the International Journal of Cross Cultural Studies. The author was also this paper is Dr. Profulla C Sarker, Senior Policy/Advocacy Adviser for the National Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Project, and an Adjunct Professor.
- published two articles in New Age. One article was titled 'Mental Health and the Health System: A neglected Domain' and the other one titled 'Serving the Mentally Ill: Integrated community-based approach needed'.
- published an article in New Age on 7 April, 2010. The article was titled "World Health Day 2010: Health in mega city of Dhaka: Unanswered Challenges".

Dr. Dina Siddiqi, former Visiting Scholar and Coordinator of Sexuality Network

- published two articles in New Age. One article appeared in their special supplement for International Women's Day on 8 March, 2010 titled 'Historicising the Bonkhe'. The other appeared in their Independence Day supplement on 26 March, 2010, titled "Political Economy of Rape".
- published a scholarly article titled "Production of Knowledge: Non-Governmental Organizations in Bangladesh" in the Encyclopedia of Women & Islamic Cultures. General Editor Suad Joseph . Brill, 2010. Brill Online.

Dr. Profulla C Sarker, former Senior Policy/Advocacy Adviser for the National Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Project, and an Adjunct Professor

- published a book titled Women in Patriarchal Society published by Serial Publications, New Delhi.

Dr. Nasima Selim, Lecturer II

- published an article: Cultural Dimensions of Depression in Bangladesh: A Qualitative Study in Two Villages of Matlab in the peer reviewed journal published by ICDDR,B, Journal of Health, Population & Nutrition, 28 (1), pp. 95-106, February 2010. Accessible on the internet. She also coauthored another article Impact of flooding on Feeding Practices of Infants and Young Children in Dhaka, Bangladesh Slums: What are the coping strategies, which has been accepted by a peer reviewed journal, Maternal & Child Nutrition.
- published an article in the Journal of Mental Health, Policy and Economics titled "An extraordinary truth? The Admi suicide notes from Bangladesh' 13 (3), 223-244 published by Routledge, UK.

Institute of Educational Development BRAC University (IED-BRACU)

As significant gaps in knowledge and professional development exist in the education sector in Bangladesh, IED-BRACU was established in 2003 under the auspice of BRAC University as a mission to address critical issues surrounding education and development. In particular, IED-BRACU recognizes the need to improve educational quality in order to achieve human developmental goals. Since the Inception Phase in 2005, which was primarily supported by BRAC, IED-BRACU has effectively operated from February 2006 to December 2010 as a beneficiary of joint support from the EKN (Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands) and SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation).

IED conducts its operation through five groups (other than administration). The groups are - Research and Development, Professional Development, Curriculum Development and Research, Academic Program: MEd in Educational Leadership, Planning and Management, and Early Childhood Development and Resource Centre.

The research group has been engaged in action research and also doing collaborative research with CREATE (Consortium for Research on Educational Access, Transitions and Equity). Under the action research project, it is working with Registered Non Government Primary Schools (RNGPSs) and students of secondary level who are either disadvantaged primary school graduates or dropped-out students and unable to attend mainstream secondary school. Another action research project is on inclusive education with National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM), GoB.

The central purpose of the professional development group is to add value to the current capacity development initiative under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME). The two major institutions that this group is working with are the Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) and the National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE).

The curriculum development and research group is directly working with the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB). The academic group is responsible for offering a Masters in Education in Educational Leadership, Planning and Management. In the first cohort, 15 government Education Officials (five Upazila Education Officers and ten Assistant Upazila Education Officers) out of the total of 21 participants were chosen to attend the one-year intensive MEd program, granting them one year's study leave with pay. The government MEd participants were awarded a full scholarship which covers their tuition fees and living costs in Dhaka. The second cohort started with 29 participants where 26 are from GoB. ECDRC is offering



RNGPS school for the action research



Head Teacher Training at BRACU Savar Campus

Masters of Science (MSc) in Early Childhood Development (ECD), Post Graduate Diploma and Post Graduate Certificate course in ECD.

Capacity development of IED staff, GoB and non government organizations (Training/Workshops, Higher Studies)

Capacity building is an ongoing part of IED's work. Only the major training/workshops (2010) are highlighted below:

January/ February

- ECDRC organized a 7-day accredited short course from 23 - 29 January on child development for the GoB professionals of the Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP). The aim was to contribute in the capacity building activity of the national system. It was a 3 credit and 42 hours course.

- In collaboration with NCTB's Primary Wing a facts-finding workshop with primary teachers and students was held on 28 February, 2010 where 36 students from 35 districts represented the mainstream students as well as the indigenous population of our country. This was organized by the curriculum development and research group of IED.

March

- ECDRC conducted an accredited short course from 21 – 31 March, 2010. A total of 21 participants from NAEM and different NGOs were present at the course. This was done as the capacity building initiative of GoB and other NGOs working in the field of ECD.

- EDU505: 'Principles of Curriculum and the Development of Learning Materials Course' took place at NAEM where in addition to MEd students, 12 NAEM staff and faculty were invited to take this course. The course was followed by a field visit to different schools and educational programs in Rangpur. The visit included both mainstream and alternatives (e.g. BRAC, RDRS, and CARITAS) in order to understand the nature of curriculum and its implementation practice. The field visit experience was later presented through 'Mela'. Through this outreach strategy, IED's relationship with the government bodies working in the field of education has improved significantly and efforts are on-going to build on these relationships in other areas as well.

- EDU 507: 'Leaders as Learners: How Children and Adults Learns'; as part of this course, the first week of sessions took place outside Dhaka at National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE) in Mymensingh, with seven of NAPE faculty and staff participating. This course developed the participants' in-depth understanding of learning and engaged them with new research and thinking about how the brain functions and shapes children and adults' learning and development. The course encouraged the participants to compare different theoretical orientations on learning, explore their own theory of how learning takes place, and integrate theories and research into teaching and management practices.

- An orientation on 'Early Childhood Care and Development program management' was held at Begum Rokeya Conference Hall, RDRS, Rangpur. ECDRC group members facilitated this training program from 13 – 18 March, 2010. This was organized by CAMPE, Bangladesh ECD Network Secretariat, Sub regional Committee of BEN (Rajshahi Region) and RDRS Bangladesh. Twenty four participants from 12 different organizations of BEN network from Rajshahi division participated in the training. The discussion was focused on the early childhood development, child development theory, brain development, developmental domains, importance of play in child development, creativity, role of parents, family members and community etc.

May

Based on an online interactive course 'Science of Early Childhood Development' of Red River College (RRC), Canada, a short course on 'Developmental Health and Brain Development' was developed and conducted at ECDRC. International faculty of Red River College and regular faculties of ECDRC facilitated the course.

July

A workshop on 'Child to Child Approaches' was held in collaboration with the Institute of Education, University of London where 24 participants from IED and other national including government and international agencies were present. The facilitator was from the Child to Child Trust, London. The course was organized to build capacity of IED staff by learning about the theoretical aspects of the Child to Child Approach and by being able to translate their theoretical knowledge into practice.

October

- One IED staff received training on emotional learning.
- ECDRC staff received training on research methodologies.

November

- 15-20 staff participated in a workshop facilitated by Dr. Wilfred J. Perera, National Institute of Education, Sri Lanka November. This was for the group working on RNGPSs.
- 15-20 staff participated in the Curriculum Workshop facilitated by Professor Robin Alexander, University of Cambridge. The purpose of this was to develop capacities on curriculum review.
- Other than the above list, 4 IED staff were given the opportunity to do their masters in 2009 – 2010 and one staff is currently doing an International Professional Doctorate in Education under the University of Sussex.

Field Based Workshops

A total of 7 listening workshops were held with GoB officials, teachers, Head Teachers (HT), Upazila Education Officer (UEO), Assistant Upazila Education Officer (AUEO), madrasa students and education professionals. During this reporting period, a series of 3 educational needs assessment workshops with 67 head teachers of Registered Non-government Primary Schools in remote geographical areas, were carried out to gain a deeper understanding of contextual realities and to reflect upon a comprehensive analysis of locally evolved educational needs in terms of knowledge, skills, attitudes, beliefs, values and performance levels of schools. Building upon these initiatives, another 3 days information needs assessment workshop was organized with 28 head teachers to ensure a "step-by-step" process where participants were expected to articulate and divide all the substantial needs, identified in the previous group assessments, into smaller and specific needs.

Collaboration with DPE

Subir Shukla facilitated an experience sharing workshop on generic training from 18-20 February. This was the first workshop. The main purpose of the generic training was to progressively develop training skills, which include training needs assessment, designing, pre-testing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The trainees would then be able to design any form of training for stakeholders within primary education with the support of content knowledge. The first workshop was a combination of a current situation analysis and training needs assessment of the primary education sector. Following the workshop the participants were given practical work, which was presented in the second workshop.

Second experience sharing workshop on Trainers Pool was held from 23-25 April, 2010 where the workshop emphasized designing and conducting training. This was a continuation of the same series facilitated by Subir Shukla. IED personnel, Assistant Thana Education Officers (TEOs) and other representative from GoB from Upazila

Resource Centers (URCs), Primary Teachers' Training Institute (PTIs), National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE) were present in the workshop.

The third experience sharing workshop by Subir Shukla on Trainers Pool took place during the month of July where the participants were also from the above list and the workshop was focused on preparing a training implementation plan. The fourth experience sharing workshop which was held between September and October focused on developing monitoring, evaluation and reporting system to ensure effectiveness of training. It is to be mentioned that IED submitted a proposal in November 2010 to MoPME for capacity building of Head Teachers and AUEOs through delivery of 10 day short courses. This proposal has been accepted on principle by MoPME. IED plans to involve members of the trainers' pool in the implementation of the short courses.

Conference

April

Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Senior Advisor participated as a resource person in the Mid-decade World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, Bonn, Germany from 31 March – 2 April, 2010.

December

- South Asia Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development was held at Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Dhaka from 7-9 December, 2010. It was jointly organized by Asia Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC) and Bangladesh ECD Network (BEN). The BEN secretariat is at IED. IED staff were involved in the design and in organizing the conference along with BEN and ARNEC. The Minister of Primary and Mass Education of the Government of Bangladesh, Dr. Md. Afsarul Ameen MP inaugurated the event and Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, State Minister, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs was the Chief Guest at the closing session. More than four hundred participants attended the conference from different countries of the South Asia Region. ECD experts from around the world participated in the conference.



ECD Conference Inaugural Ceremony

- Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Senior Advisor of IED was invited as a resource person at the Sixth World Conference on Adult Learning and Education, Belem, Brazil, 1 – 4 December, 2010. He contributed to the drafting of the Confintea VI Declaration on Adult Learning and Education.

Symposium and seminars on important education policy concerns

February

A seminar was held in February 2010 on 'Leaders as Learners' which was conducted by Professor Virginia Roach, George Washington University. IED staff and representatives from GoB were present at the seminar.

April

- Global Action Week Seminar was held on 19 April, 2010 Education Policy, Education Financing, and National Expectations. IED made a review of keynote presentations. The Minister of Education was the Chief Guest.
- Another global Action Week Seminar was held on 22 April, 2010. This seminar focused on the Right to Education for Marginalized Children. The State Minister of Primary and

Mass Education was the Chief Guest. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Senior Advisor at IED-BRACU.

November

Bafed- UNESCO symposium- 22 November, 2010. IED made a presentation on "Implementation of Education Policy – Instrumental Role of the Sixth Plan." The adviser to the PM on Education and Social Affairs was present.

Course completed up to December 2010

January

- EDU504: Research Methods 1: Reading Research and Writing Reports (1st cohort).
- ECD524: School Readiness (2nd cohort) (January-February).

February

EDU503: Creating Learning Organizations: Leadership, Planning and Management (1st cohort MEd).

March

- EDU505: Principles of Curriculum and the Development of Learning Materials (1st cohort MEd) (Feb. – Mar.).
- EDU507 Leaders as Learners: How Children and Adults Learn (1st cohort MEd).
- ECD520: Program Design and an Introduction to Research (2nd cohort) (March-April).



Dr. Mainus Sultan, faculty, MEd, University of Massachusetts Amherst, with the students at BRACU Savar Campus

April

- EDU506: Leaders as Learners: Leading People in Educational Institutions.
- EDU509 The Whole School Improvement Approach: How Can We Make It Work? (1st cohort MEd) (April - May).
- The second cohort of ECD enrolled in diploma during this month.

May - June

- EDU601: Improving Outcomes in Bangladeshi Schools: A Case Study (1st cohort MEd).
- EDU602: Research Methods 2: Planning and Preparing Research (1st cohort MEd).
- ECD529: Research Methods: An Introduction to Basic Principles – Postgraduate Diploma (2nd cohort).

June – August

- EDU603: Masters Thesis.
- The 1st cohort completed (Total 21 participants of which 15 were from the government) the MEd in Educational Leadership, Planning and Management program in August 2010.
- The first cohort of the MSc. in Early Childhood Development completed their masters in August 2010.
- ECD527: Individualized Teaching and Learning – Postgraduate Diploma (2nd cohort) (June - July).

September

- The 2nd cohort of the MEd. started with 29 participants (26 from govt.). The orientation was held at IED. The English Language Course and Basic IT Course for the participants were held between September and October.
- ECD528: Policy Development and Advocacy – Postgraduate Diploma (2nd



Dr. Faith Lamb Parker, faculty Columbia University with the 2nd batch MSc students

cohort) (September - October). The third cohort of the MSc was enrolled in the certificate course during this month.

October

- EDU501 Educational Theories and Practices: A Critique (2nd cohort MEd).
- ECD521: Foundation of Early Childhood Development (3rd cohort certificate).

November

- EDU502 Learning Improvements in Education: Ongoing Works in Bangladesh (2nd cohort MEd).
- ECD526 Contemporary Issues In ECD – Postgraduate Diploma (2nd cohort) (November - December).
- ECD525: Working with Families (3rd cohort certificate).

December

- A 10 day short course on EDU504: Research Methods 1: Reading Research and Writing Report of 4 credits was facilitated by Dr. Mainus Sultan in December 2010. The participants were from NAPE, NAEM, Upazila Resource Centre (URC) and IED.
- ECD523: Play and Creativity (December 2009 – January 2010).
- ECD523: Play and Creativity (3rd cohort certificate).
- IED supported NCTB to develop Grade I and II textbooks in four color incorporating new illustrations. These books are currently being used by all govt. and non-govt. primary children of Bangladesh. It is to be mentioned here that IED is one of the members of the national curriculum review committee of NCTB.

Study tours/ visits of IED staff

June – September

- A staff member from research went to the University of Sussex for 4 months from June to September 2010 (under CREATE Project).
- One staff member from ECDRC went to Mackaray University in Australia to participate in a workshop related to ECD in Emergency.
- The Head of ECDRC participated in the World Congress on ECD in Moscow.

October

A 9 member team from NCTB and IED visited Sri Lanka. The purpose of the visit was to learn first-hand from the education system of Sri Lanka and incorporate feasible ideas in the national curriculum reform of Bangladesh.

November

- A 7 member team from IED and GoB visited Tamil Nadu to learn from the state run project on 'Activity based learning'.
- One member of the Academic group participated in the regional conference on 'Reorienting teacher education for EFA and ESD' held in Bangkok.

Visit to IED by International Resource Persons during 2010

Name of the consultant	Groups consultants worked with
Dr. Mainus Sultan, University of Massachusetts Amherst	MEd. Program
Dr. Cristine Smith, University of Massachusetts Amherst	MEd. Program
Dr. Carolyn A. Brown, George Washington University	MEd. Program
Jaddon Park, University of Toronto	MEd. Program
Dr. Virginia Roach George Washington University	MEd. Program
Dr. Cassie Landers, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, Columbia University	MSc. Program
Dr. Faith Lamb Parker, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, Columbia University	MSc. Program
Dr. Steffen Saifer, Director, Child and Family Program, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, Portland	MSc. Program
Dr. Indrani Talagala, Ex Dean, Open University, Sri Lanka	MSc. Program
Dr. De nnis Melone, SIL, Thailand	Curriculum Development and Research
Subir Shukla, international consultant, India	Professional Development
Dr. Wilfred J. Perera, National Institute of Education Sri Lanka	Professional Development and Action Research
Shad Moarif, independent consultant, Mathematics	Curriculum Development and Research
Professor Robin Alexander, Univeristy of Cambridge	Curriculum Developm ent and Research

Publications

May

The Professional Development group Team Leader and the Senior Advisor prepared a monograph titled "How Diversity in Provisions Can Help Access to Primary Education: The Case of Bangladesh," and was selected for publication by University of Sussex under CREATE Pathways to Access.

July

CREATE Bangladesh Community and School Study (ComSS).

October

School Drop Out in Bangladesh: New insights from Longitudinal Evidence, CREATE PTA

Age in Grade Congruence and Progression in Basic Education in Bangladesh, CREATE PTA.

November

- Educational Access in Bangladesh, Country Research Summary.
- Equity and Access to Education in Bangladesh, Bangladesh Policy Brief.

December

- Poverty and Equity: Access to Education in Bangladesh, CREATE PTA.
- ECD first cohort theses have been published in December 2010 during the year.
- 18-20 issues of Bangladesh ECD Newsletters were published.

MoU with government institutions

May

NAEM and IED entered in to an agreement particularly to be the lead partner in carrying out the Action Research on "Inclusive Education in Bangladesh'.

Cultural function

After the completion of the MEd. course, the first cohort students participated in a cultural program in May 2010. The program included songs, drama and poetry recitation. It was a farewell function for the MEd. participants.

Institute of Governance Studies (IGS)



The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) is a research, training and teaching Institute of BRAC University. For IGS, the concept of governance is best defined as the sum total of the institutions and processes by which society orders and conducts its collective or common affairs. The need for an exclusive institute equipped with recent innovations and practices in public policy and management of the contemporary world for the future leaders of Bangladesh became obvious in the 21st century. BRAC University recognised this need and established the then "Center for Governance Studies" in 2005, which by July 2007 evolved into the 'Institute of Governance Studies' (IGS) as a pioneering Institute in Bangladesh on governance. IGS offers a postgraduate degree - MA in Governance and Development (MAGD), undertakes need based short/professional training and conducts research in areas of governance and development. The annual flagship research publication of IGS - "The State of Governance in Bangladesh" is the first of its kind in the country and has created a unique niche for IGS.

Academic/Short Courses and Other Training

MAGD Students Participated in the 5th Convocation 2010

Twenty seven students of the MA in Governance and Development program successfully graduated in the 5th convocation of BRAC University held in February 2010.

IGS Conducted Procurement Training

IGS collaborated with the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS), UK to offer CIPS procurement courses in Bangladesh for twenty government officials, sponsored by Central



Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) of Bangladesh Government. IGS offered courses for Level 4 (Foundation Diploma) and Level 5 (Advanced Diploma) courses in Purchasing and Supply. To build local capacity, CIPS and IGS jointly organised Training of Trainer (ToT) programmes in June and November in 2010. Successful trainers were awarded certificates from CIPS.

Training Course on "Project Management for Development Practitioners"

IGS, in collaboration with BRAC Business School, organised a training course on "Project Management for Development Practitioners" from 17 to 22 July 2010 at JATRI. Thirteen participants attended the course.

Professional Certificate Programme on "Environmental Management and Governance"

IGS started a four-month long Professional Certificate Programme on Environmental Management and Governance in October 2010. The Certificate Programme was offered under 'Building Environmental Governance Capacity in Bangladesh' project, jointly implemented by IGS, North South University, Centre for Natural Resource Studies and University of Manitoba, Canada. The certificate programme aimed to sensitise and build capacity of mid-level officials from public sector, NGOs and private sector on key environmental governance issues related to natural resources and environment management. Twelve participants, mostly from private sector, participated in the Programme.



Civil Service Training Programme on Private Sector Development

The 2nd pilot programme of Civil Service Training Program (CSTP) on Private Sector Development (PSD) was held at BCDM, Rajendrapur (residential phase) and Dhaka (non-residential or experiential learning phase) during 10 – 28 April 2010. The training programme was organised by the IGS in partnership with Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) and Korea Development Institute (KDI), School of Public Policy and Management, South Korea. The training programme was part of an initiative undertaken by Bangladesh Investment Climate Fund (BICF), in association with the Ministry of Establishment (now Ministry of Public Administration), Government of Bangladesh. Seventeen Deputy Secretaries of the Government of Bangladesh participated in the training program.e.

ANSA Refresher Course for MAGD Students

The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR) and the Global Partnership Fund (GPF) organised a two



days refresher course for the alumni of MA in Governance and Development programme on 29-30 March 2010 at BCDM, Rajendrapur. Fifty five MAGD alumni, who are now currently serving at various levels in the Bangladesh government attended the course.

JATRI Organised Trainings

JATRI organised a number of training courses on different issues in 2010. Topics covered were: Training of Media Trainers Programme in January, a three days training course for the





journalists of the new daily *Adhinayak* on interviewing and source development techniques in March, storytelling for women journalist in June, IP based telecommunication system in June and Ethics and Standards in journalism, interviewing and source development techniques in July 2010.

Research Publications

IGS Launched "The Judiciary: Policy Note"

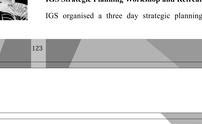
IGS launched The Judiciary: Policy Note" on 11 August 2010 in JATRI Conference Room. Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh was present as the Chief Guest at the launching ceremony. Dr. M. Shah Alam, Member, Law Commission, Barrister Harun ur Rashid, Former Bangladesh Ambassador and Dr. Shahdeen Malik, Director, School of Law, BRAC University were the guest speakers. Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Professor Aiman Nishat chaired the programme. More than Thirty journalists from both print and electronic media covered the programme. "The Judiciary: Policy Note" is a part of IGS Policy Note Series on 'Institutions of Accountability'.





IGS Launched the Summary of SoG 2009

IGS launched the summaries of its fourth annual report the State of Governance in Bangladesh (SoG) 2009 on 6 October. Former Chief Advisor to the Caretaker Government Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman was present as the Chief Guest at the launching ceremony. Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir chaired the programme. The 2009 SoG focuses on four key sectors, namely, energy, food security, e-government and labour migration. The SoG 2009 was published in December 2010.



JATRI Launched a Study Report on the State of Women in Journalism

Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI) launched a study report on The State of Women in Journalism on 24 October 2010. The study aimed to understand the ground realities experienced by women journalists in Bangladesh.

Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Symposium/ Talk/ Discussion

IGS Strategic Planning Workshop and Retreat

IGS organised a three day strategic planning





workshop from 9 to 11 January 2010 at the BRAC Centre for Development Management (BCDM), Rajendrapur. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Suresh Raghavan, Director, Public Affairs Centre, India. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss IGS current and future programmes and to set agenda for the next four years. During the three-day workshop, IGS staff examined its previous activities, revised its mission, vision and identified issues to be focused in the next four years. The workshop ended with a cultural show staged by staff of IGS.

PPSC Meetings Held

IGS offered technical assistance to the Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), IME Division, Planning Ministry of the Government of Bangladesh in holding the first and second meeting of the Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC) on 3 February and 19 August 2010 respectively. The meeting were held in the NEC-II Conference room of Planning Commission campus. Planning Minister of Bangladesh Government Air Vice Marshal



(Retd.) A K Khandker, who is also Chairperson of the PPSC, presided over both the meetings.

IGS Workshop on the State of Corporate Governance in Bangladesh

IGS in association with the Brummer and Partners Bangladesh organised a day-long workshop on the State of Corporate Governance in Bangladesh on 18 March 2010. The main objective of the workshop was to discuss the state of corporate governance in Bangladesh to address the challenges of establishing a strong base for corporate governance in Bangladesh. Chairman of Apex Group Syed Manzur Elahi presented the keynote speech on corporate governance and its importance in the global and regional context. Director of IGS Manzoor Hasan, CEO of Brummer and Partners Bangladesh Khalid Quadir and Director of Institute of Business Administration, Dhaka University Professor GM Chowdhury in their addresses highlighted relevant areas of corporate governance in the workshop. Participating companies at the workshop were ACI, Al-Amin Group, Apex Group, Citibank NA, GEMCON Group, Delta Insurance, Rahimafrooz, Ananta Group, Nitol-Niloy, HSBC and others.

IGS Researchers Participated in the International Conference on RTI

Munyema Hasan and Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associates of IGS attended a regional workshop on Right to Information (RTI) titled "Toward More Open and Transparent Governance in South Asia" held in New Delhi, India from 27 to 29 April 2010.

IGS Workshop on Democratic Governance and Human Rights

IGS facilitated a workshop on "Democratic Governance and Human Rights: Achievements Towards the Millennium Declaration" on 31 May 2010 at the Bangladesh Institute for Administration and Management (BIAM).

IGS Researcher Presented Paper on MDGs in Bangladesh

Munyema Hasan, Research Associate of IGS (ANSA-SAR project), presented a paper on 'Citizen Monitoring of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Bangladesh' on 19 September 2010 as part of the five day Stand Up and Take Action Campaign (SUTA) for the MDGs around the world in Dhaka.

ANSA Workshop on 'Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation for Good Governance and Social Accountability Projects'

ANSA-SAR, based in IGS, and the Global Partnership Fund (GPF) organised a workshop on 'Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation for Good Governance and Social Accountability Projects' in Jaipur, India from 1 to 3 June 2010. The workshop was hosted by the Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) International, a partner of ANSA. Around forty delegates from eight countries participated in the workshop.

IGS Organised Four Roundtables on SoG 2009

IGS organised roundtables on the four chapters,



food security, international labour migration, e-government and energy, of The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2009 (SoG) Report, in the month of December 2010. Lawmakers, especially Chairmen of the related Parliamentary Standing Committees, experts, academicians and columnists participated in these roundtables. Dr. AMM Shawkat Ali, former advisor to the caretaker government, Dr. Tasneem Siddique, Chair of the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), Dr. Anannya Raihan, Executive Director of D.Net and Dr. M Tamim, former special Assistant to the chief Advisor of the caretaker government chaired the four roundtables.

Director Visited a Number of Countries to Provide Technical Assistance on UNCAC

Director of IGS Manzoor Hasan, visited Thailand and Bhutan in February, Maldives and Nepal in June, Yemen in July, Indonesia in October and Viet Nam in December to provide technical assistance to the respective governments with regard to assessment on the compliance and gap analysis on the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

Delegation of You Change Foundation of Beijing visited IGS

A thirteen member delegation from the You Change Foundation of Beijing, led by its Chairperson Ms. Wang Ping, visited the Institute of Governance Studies during 02-04 October 2010 as part of their tour of BRAC University and other organisations in Bangladesh.

ANSA Press Meeting

The Affiliated Network for Social Accountability (ANSA) of IGS was officially launched at a press meeting on 7 March 2010. Among others, the Pro-vice Chancellor of BRAC University Professor Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir and the Director of IGS Manzoor Hasan were present on the occasion. Thirty five members from eighteen partner organisations from Argentina, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Kyrgyz Republic, Philippines and Sri Lanka were present and spoke on the occasion.

ANSA Workshop on "Implementing Social Accountability Programmes: Strategies, Approaches & Methodologies"

A workshop on "Implementing Social Accountability Programmes: Strategies, Approaches & Methodologies" was held from 8 to 11 March 2010. This was an event of learning and sharing for the members of partner organisations, organised by ANSA - SAR & Global Partnership Fund (GPF). On 11 March, members from the sixteen participating organisations from six countries signed Memorandums of Understanding with ANSA, inaugurating the first round of grants being given through a seed funding mechanism, financed by the World Bank Institute.

ANSA Chief Joined Meetings in Australia and Delhi

Dr. Gopakumar K Thampi, Chief Operating Officer (COO) of ANSA - SAR & Global, participated in 2010 Council Meeting of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) on 21 - 22 October 2010 as Keynote Speaker of the Opening Plenary. Dr. Thampi also addressed a plenary session at the Evaluation Conclave 2010 held in New Delhi, India on 28 October 2010.

ANSA Workshop for Bangladeshi Parliamentarians

ANSA-SAR & the Global Partnership Fund (GPF), in partnership with the World Bank Institute and the Canadian International



Development Agency (CIDA), hosted a workshop for Bangladeshi parliamentarians on 'Strengthening Parliamentary Oversight: Stronger Linkages Between Citizens and MPs' on 13 December 2010 at the *Westin Hotel*. The workshop was attended by twenty participants, including nine MPs representing both benches in of the parliament.

ANSA Workshop on the Open Budget Survey

ANSA SAR in partnership with the International Budget Partnership and the Centre for Policy Alternatives, Sri Lanka hosted a two day event at the Cinnamon Grand Colombo on 24-25 November 2010, to launch the South Asia findings from the 2010 Open Budget Survey. The Open Budget Survey is the only independent, comparative, and regular measure of budget transparency and accountability around the world. The workshop had participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka representing the polity, academia and civil society.

Prominent attendees included Mr. Rauf Hakeem, Minister of Justice of Sri Lanka, Dr. Mohammad Mustafa Mastoor, Deputy Minister of Finance Afghanistan, Ms. Shagufta Yasmin, Member of Parliament and Party Whip from Bangladesh, AHM Mustafa Kamal, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh, Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank, Mr. Karu Jayasurya, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Sri Lankan Parliament and Dr. Pervez Tahir, former Chief Economist of the Planning Commission in Pakistan.

ANSA joined at Regional Conference on Delivering Social Protection for Unorganised Workers

ANSA SAR collaborated with GTZ and InWent

in a Regional Conference on Delivering Social Protection for Unorganised Workers, held in Bangalore, India, from 18 to 20 November 2010. This conference was jointly supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, InWEnt – Weiterbildung und Entwicklung GmbH, Capacity Building International, Germany.

ANSA SAR was the thematic introducer for the working group "Public Service Delivery Systems: Good Practices & How They Work". Four partners of ANSA SAR from India also attended the event to share experiences and insights.

Lectures Organised by JATRI

The Journalism Training and Research Initiative (JATRI) of IGS organised a number of lectures in 2010. These are:

- "Good Governance Through Marketing Communication and Media" on 14 January by Dr. Gurprit S. Kindra, Professor, University of Ottawa.
- "Broadcast Journalism: Past, Present and Way Forward" on 04 February. Prominent broadcaster of Voice of America (VoA) Mr. Anis Ahmed was the key speaker.
- "Interpreting Statistics for Media Professionals" on 10 March. Tathagata Dasgupta, Associate Director, ORG Centre



for Social Research, AC Nielsen South Asia gave the lecture.

- "Right to Information and Media" on 15 December. Chief Information Commissioner Muhammad Zamir delivered the lecture.

JATRI Roundtables and Dialogues:

JATRI organised five roundtable discussions in 2010 on various issues. These are:

1. Right to Information Act & Investigative Journalism Techniques in March 2010. Ralph A. Frammolino, a journalist of The Los Angeles Times, facilitated the discussions with the journalists of The Daily *Adhinayak*, who had earlier received training from JATRI.

2. Role of Women in Local Governance from Media Perspective on 13 June. Ajoy Dasgupta, Chief, Editorial Section, The Daily Samakal





presented a survey result which was conducted on elected women representatives of 329 upazilas among 481 upazilas of the country. Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Honorable State Minister, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs was present at the discussion as the Chief Guest and Dalal Chandra Biswas, Director General, Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) as the Special Guest.

3. Media and Indigenous People on the occasion of International Day of the World's Indigenous People on 05 August, 2010. Sanjeeb Drong, General Secretary, Bangladesh Adivashi Forum presented the keynote paper in the programme. Raja Devasish Roy, Chakma Circle Chief and member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, was the Chief Guest and Prof. Sadeka Halim, Member of Information Commission was the Special Guest in the programme.

4. New Media New Horizon Citizen Journalism in Bangladesh on 31 October 2010. Dr. Fahmidul Haq, Assistant Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Dhaka and Mr. Abu Saeed Khan, General Secretary, Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh, delivered key speeches in the roundtable.

5. Sharing Experience with the Journalists on Health Situation of Bangladesh on December 14, 2010. A delegation, comprising of students and faculty of Nova South Eastern University, USA, shared their experiences with the journalists of Bangladesh in the discussion.



Awards/Achievements

IGS Awarded IDRC Grant

International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada awarded IGS with a grant under their Think Tank Initiative (TTI) in 2010 under which 28 institutions were selected worldwide among 300 applications. Only two institutions - IGS and CPD were selected from Bangladesh.

JATRI Fellowship Declared

JATRI declared the names of winners of JATRI Fellowship 2010 on 6 October 2010 alongside the launching ceremony of SoG 2009 at JATRI Conference Room. The Fellowship was given to eight journalists in the following categories - newspaper, television, radio, and online newspaper.

Other Events

Gambhira performances:

ANSA-SAR of IGS organised three Gambhira performances titled *'Tothyo Jana Harge Odhikar'*, to raise awareness on the Right to Information Act, in Dhaka, on Pohela Boishakh, (14 April 2010). *'Tothyo Jana Hargo Odhikar'* was written, directed and performed by the renowned theatre group, Prachyanat, at three important locations in Dhaka city.

Brac Development Institute (BDI) Annual Report, 2010

BDI is a resource centre for promoting research and building knowledge on practical solutions for addressing poverty, inequity and social injustice. BDI's mandate is to challenge conventional knowledge and advance a southern voice in the global development discourse. In order to fulfill its mandate, BDI is committed to multi-disciplinarity, not just across academic disciplines, but across its activities in research, teaching and communications. BDI seeks to generate fresh ideas and test new strategies in order to distil good practice lessons for adaptation and scaling up. It provides a space for researchers, policy makers and practitioners to develop new strategic thinking and promote new agendas for social change. In all its work BDI aims to challenge conventional knowledge and generate ideas that foster new approaches to development policy and practice.

I) TEACHING AND LEARNING

BDI offers the following academic courses:

1. ***Masters in Development Studies (MDS)*** programme is designed to provide an in-depth, inter-disciplinary understanding of development concepts and issues. On satisfactory completion of the program, students will be able to approach and analyse development issues in the context of globalisation, economic transformation, and social, cultural and political changes. The programme provides a wide range of elective courses so that students can pursue their studies according to their academic interests and career objectives.

   The MDS program currently has a total of 62 students, of which 43 joined in Fall 2010.

2. The postgraduate certificate course on ***Management of Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation (MLARR)*** explores issues of land acquisition processes and approaches to resettlement in Bangladesh. The course introduces key concepts, tools and techniques required to effectively acquire land and manage the resettlement process of development induced displaced people. The course runs for the duration of an entire semester, i.e. fourteen weeks. In 2010, eight participants from government and development sectors successfully completed the course. Further, three five-day short courses were held between May and June 2010, training 52 participants from the governments of Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Afghanistan.

3. BRAC Development Institute (BDI) at BRAC University launched a ***Masters in Development Management and Practice (MDMP)*** program for the first time in Bangladesh. The program is a member of the Global Network of Masters in Development Practice Program, based at the Earth Institute at Columbia University in New York, supported by the MacArthur Foundation. MDMP is targeted at academics, researchers and management staff in the development sector, both in government and non-governmental organizations. Professor Syed M. Hashemi inaugurated the opening session of the program on 9 January 2011. The inaugural batch of the program currently has 12 students.

4. **Introductory Course on Microfinance is a ten day introductory course on microfinance intended** for those with little or no knowledge of microfinance. It provides a broad global picture of the state of microfinance, its emergence and challenges, and its future. It is grounded in the experience of Bangladesh. Student from Japan participated in the first course offered in September 2009.

II) RESEARCH

The research programmes at BDI are multidisciplinary, organized in five closely linked themes. BDI hosts a number of national and international, multi-partner research projects that fall under following themes:

1. ***Economic Transformation*** focuses on the dynamics of graduating out of extreme poverty by analysing market creation, social safety net models, and financial services for the poor.

2. ***Women's Empowerment*** investigates the factors that affect women's everyday lives and pathways for transforming power relations and structures to be more gender equitable.

3. ***Democracy and Governance*** explores how and where citizen's participation and government reforms can make a difference to questions of pro-poor development and social justice.

4. ***Environment and Change*** focuses on the socio economic impact of natural disasters and climate change on vulnerable communities and their coping strategies based on indigenous knowledge.

5. ***History, Politics and Development*** furthers the understanding of who we are and how we fit into the globalised world through an investigation into the roots of our secular culture and our history of struggles for freedom and economic emancipation.

Throughout the year 2010, BRAC Development Institute's notable events were:

International Conference on Islam and Politics in South Asia

BDI conducted a very successful conference titled 'Transcending Binaries: Islam and Politics in South Asia' at BRAC Centre on 18 and 19 December 2010. Besides our own scholars, the conference brought together leading scholars who work on South Asia and Islam from reputed institutions such as Jawaharlal Nehru University, University of California at Berkeley, University of Texas at Austin, University of Amsterdam, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA, Ryerson University in Toronto and BRAC University.

The conference began with an introductory note by Vice Chancellor Professor Ainun Nishat, followed by an opening speech by Chief Guest Dr. Mashiur Rahman, Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister on Economic Affairs. Saba Mahmood, Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, set the perfect tone for the conference with her incisive keynote speech asking for a critical recontex-tualization of secularisms in the face of the US war on terror on the one hand and the rise of Islamic fundamentalism on the other. The panel discussions that included noted scholars such as Willem Van Schendel, Kamran Ali, Zoya Hasan, Amina Jamal, Dina Siddiqi, and Ali Riaz, centered on ideas of nationalism, modernity, women's empowerment, asking for a critical

examining of existing modes of thinking and a broadening of existing analytic concepts. The conference also had a videoconference with writer Tariq Ali from London. The conference ended with concluding remarks by Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister on International Affairs.

BDI feels that the conference offered the perfect academic and critical platform to think through many critical issues that are currently extremely pertinent to the cultural and political landscape of South Asia. Well-received by the participants and others who attended as guests, BDI hopes to keep the discussions and debates alive through future collaborative initiatives with conference participants as well as take the issues to a wider audience. Future plans include putting the conference papers together into an edited volume of essays.

BDI Lecture Series

From the month of April, 2010 BDI has been organizing a successful program titled the 'BDI Lecture Series' that aims to generate discussions and debate around the issues of social justice, exclusion and rights that BDI is engaged with. Eminent speakers in the series have included Professor David Ludden, History Department, New York University, Naeem Mohaiemen, writer, artist and digital-media activist, Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRAC University, Yasmine Kabir, filmmaker, Naila Kabeer, Professor of Development Studies, SOAS, Tariq Omar Ali, PhD Candidate, Harvard University and Dr. Naomi Hossain, Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies.

MLARR Conference Held

An international conference titled 'Land Acquisition and Resettlement: Balancing Development With Social Justice' was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on June 29 and 30. The conference, organized by BDI and funded by DFID, The World Bank and AusAid, brought together delegates from South Africa, China, Thailand, Argentina, Afghanistan and Colombia who met with Bangladesh government officials, academics and civil society representatives to explore what a national resettlement policy should look like.

Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Programme

Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Programme at BDI is part of an international Research Programme Consortium (RPC) made up of activists and academics who explore and seek to bring about positive changes in women's everyday lives. The researches under this program use the entry points of voice, work and body to determine the processes and conditions that allow women to challenge inequality. The programme investigates what enables women, individually and collectively, to empower themselves, how they sustain these changes, and how development agencies' policies support or hinder this process. UK's Department for International Development primarily funds the program. The Pathways programme is presently funded from 2007-2011.

During the year 2010, the program has engaged with audiences through workshops, lectures, conferences, television talk shows, as well as books, academic articles, research reports, newspaper and magazine articles.

Some highlights from the year are:

- A set of four research reports titled Women's **Empowerment in Bangladesh: Debates and Possibilities** was launched at the

Ekushey Book Fair on 20 February, 2010. These Bangla publications have been written in accessible language in order to make the findings attractive to a large and diverse audience. It hopes to draw students, academics, general readers, women's rights organizations, and other institutions and stakeholders into the various findings, insights and debates related to women's empowerment.

- A five-day workshop on **Digital Story-Telling** was organized at Ashika Training Centre in Rangamati from 18-22 April, 2010. The workshop trained 12 women- women's rights and peace activists, NGO staff and university students from CHT to make Digital Stories about their lives. The accounts of struggle, identity, change, success and survival narrated by the Hill women provide a rich repository of stories providing insights into life in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

- A seminar titled **"Community Health Workers as Agents of Change"** organized jointly by BDI and ICDDR,B on 25 May, 2010 presented research findings on how women health workers have been instrumental in bringing social change in their communities. The seminar included a panel discussion where panellists from the Government, ICDDR,B, Ganoshathya Kendro and BRAC gave their views on the study findings. The event received extensive media coverage in various newspapers and on the radio.

- The Pathways Programme at BDI organized a panel on Women and Popular Culture at the "Cultural Crossroads Conference" at Lingnan University, Hong Kong, 17-21 June, 2010. The panel featured the research on women watching television in Bangladesh. The conference was organized by the Association for Cultural Studies (ACS) and was an excellent forum to highlight the role of culture in development and connect with academics, researchers, practitioners and activists from the Asia-Pacific region.

- The book "Mapping Women's Empowerment: Experiences from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan" published jointly by BDI and University Press Limited was launched on 8 July 2010. The volume contains 11 articles by writers from the region discussing the enabling factors and barriers to women's voice, work and bodily integrity and is edited by Professor Firdous Azim and Maheen Sultan. The book is an important resource for activists, educators and anyone interested in issues of equal opportunity, gender discrimination and human rights.

The emphasis in 2011 will be in finalising various on-going research and disseminating the findings to various audiences such as academics, media, practitioners and the general public. Various publications will be brought out and a number of public events will be arranged such as a final conference in July 2011. BRAC Development Institute and the Department of English and Humanities at BRAC University will be hosting the bi-annual conference of the Inter Asia Cultural Studies Society (IACSS) "Cultural Transformations: Development Initiatives and Social Movements" in Dhaka on 17th and 18th December, 2011. The conference will establish a dialogue between academics, practitioners, social and cultural activists from inside and outside the region to explore new ways to re-imagine the idea of Asia in the new century. Another strand of

work will be the feeding in of the research outputs into course materials and course design.

With the Pathways programme funding coming to a close in September 2011, the international networks established will be formalised and the research work continued through integration into other on-going and planned research in BDI.

Urban Poverty

The urban poverty research cell at BDI initiated a multi-year, multi-site action research program to test out new ideas and new strategies to address the problems of urban poverty in its more concentrated form – the urban slums. The program, "Building Capacities and Creating Communities: Towards a Multi-Sector Initiative in Urban Slums of Bangladesh," seeks to create sustainable livelihood pathways for the poor, construct a more liveable built environment, provide access to basic services, and develop systems of collaboration and governance that can allow for a more empowering future for slum dwellers in urban Bangladesh. This program is being implemented in association with the Department of Architecture and the School of Public Health at BRAC University, Save the Children (UK), WaterAid Bangladesh and BRAC and other grassroots level organizations.

Throughout the year, the action research program has included a range of interventions to address the multidimensional nature of problems that slum dwellers face, including:

- Spatial planning and construction of a more environmentally friendly community
- Infrastructure, such as drainage, roads, water supply, street lighting, etc
- Access to services, such as health, schooling, finance, etc
- Housing and tenancy rights
- Market development and creation of livelihood opportunities
- Effective governance
- Insecurity and violence, especially gender violence

According to the research proposal, one intervention site and one control site was chosen in each of five slum areas, Khulna, Rajshahi, Mymensigh, Tongi and Dinajpur; where situation analyses and proposed intervention designs were conducted. Following the situation analyses, baseline surveys were conducted in the ten slums. Further, an architect was appointed to construct the physical mapping and architectural mapping of each slum. As stipulated in the research proposal, intervention programs will be implemented in each of the five intervention sites for two years (2011 – 2012). During this period, the Process Documentation Research will be held, in which best practices and policy gaps will be highlighted.

Revisiting Devaluation of Daughters in Bangladesh: Continuity or Change?

'Revisiting devaluation of daughters in Bangladesh: Continuity or Change?' research is an 18-month research project funded by IDRC.

The phenomenon of 'missing women' has been described as one of the less noticed human catastrophes in the world today. However, while absolute numbers of 'missing women' have continued to increase with the increase in population size, there has been a decline in the percentages of women missing, suggesting a reduction in female disadvantage relative to male. Overall sex ratios (males per 100 females) have fallen in most regions but more

substantially in some than others. Progress in the South Asian region has also been uneven, with Bangladesh showing relatively greater improvement in sex ratios compared to India and Pakistan. The aim of the 18-month research titled 'Revisiting devaluation of daughters in Bangladesh: Continuity or Change?' is to use a micro-level and in-depth approach to uncover what the combination of factors might have been that has caused a relatively greater improvement in the sex ratios in Bangladesh compared to her South Asian neighbours, despite far greater poverty. The project is funded by IDRC and research commenced in January 2010.

There is a theoretical rationale for this objective: it will provide us with a better grasp of the gender dynamics of social change, particularly change that appears to promote more egalitarian gender relations. There is also a policy rationale: a better grasp of the dynamics of change which lead to a greater investment in the survival and well-being of daughters may provide us with new policy levers to promote such change in other parts of the sub-continent. The following activities were undertaken in 2010:

- Household census of data of one village collected and data entry and data cleaning done.
- Preliminary analysis of quantitative data done.
- In-depth qualitative research completed and sixty two interviews of men and women have been transcribed and translated.
- Preliminary qualitative analysis has begun.

Citizenship Research

The 'Deepening Democracy, Building Citizenship and Promoting Participation' research, better known as the Citizenship research completed its final year of research in 2010. The Bangladesh Citizenship research together with a larger consortium of partners from eight Southern countries is part of the Development Research Centre (DRC) on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability, located at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex. The DRC was established with DFID funding in 2000 and has been conducting research on citizenship for the last ten years.

Taking a 'seeing like a citizen' perspective, the Citizenship DRC has explored a number of themes related to how poor people in different countries understand their roles and identities as citizens; the spaces and dynamics through which they engage and participate to articulate their interests, the new relationships of accountability that emerge between non-state actors, the state and the market as citizens mobilize to claim their rights; and the relationship of citizenship to issues of science, technology and policy.

The ten year research period was divided into four phases. The Bangladesh research focused on the struggle for women's rights, collective action at the grassroots, rights of garment workers and community interventions for health rights at the various phases of the research. The last phase of the research (2007-2010) on social mobilization at the grassroots was undertaken at BDI, BRAC University.

The year 2010 was earmarked as the period for communicating the research to wider audiences. The communication activities in 2010 included:

- Nagorik Adhikar Mela (Citizen Rights Fair) - The two day 'Nagorik Adhikar Mela' (Citizen Rights Fair) was a huge communication event. Held in partnership

with 57 rights-based grassroots development organizations from all over Bangladesh in Shilpakala Academy on 22-23 January 2010, the event was attended by approximately two to three thousand people over the two days. It was a culmination of 6 months of communicating, building networks and planning with the full participation and ownership of all the organizations.

- Post Mela NGO Dialogue – A dialogue was held with the 57 participating organizations in 28 February 2010. The dialogue examined the experiences of the organizations and the networks built during the course of planning and implementing the fair to discuss larger issues of identity and network of organizations working on rights as well as to plan for future fairs.

Communication materials developed were:

- A process documentation of the fair is due to be published in March 2011. This will include the documentation of the process, a reflection section on key areas (building ownership and participation, management, sponsorship, etc) and a manual to replicate the event. It is expected that the document will aid in the organizing and management of future fairs.
- The third issue of the BDI Research Brief from the Citizenship research team was published. Third in the "Seeing Like a Citizen" series, "Voice of the people" attempts to understand how citizens, specifically the poor and women, make themselves heard. This brief indicates that, people are raising their voices to ensure the protection of their rights. They are doing so by participating in local committees and arbitration processes, by strengthening engagement with the local government and elected representative and by mobilizing protests. What becomes evident is that when spaces are opened up, marginalized women and men take the opportunity to speak out, paving the way for deepening democracy.

Centre for Languages (CfL)

Introduction

With a clear focus on creative and forward thinking teaching concepts, the Centre for Languages (CfL) of BRAC University is firmly involved in the field of language teaching where there are diverse learner groups including the regular students of BRAC University. The primary goal of the centre is to assist the students in developing the language skills to be successful in their academic, professional and personal life. CfL does this in individual proficiency based courses, formerly known as modules, by using student centered and creative language teaching techniques. This approach has already been proven not only for eliminating the possibility of having mixed ability classes, where some students flourish and some fail, but also in ensuring excellent interaction between teachers and learners within small classes. In addition to the university classes, CfL also offers a pre-university course for the students who need extra help with their English language skills to be successful university students.

BPS Teacher Training Programme

CfL is piloting a 12 week long "Teachers' Training Program" for the teachers working at BRAC Primary Schools (BPS). The programme has four phases. CfL has signed a MOU with BRAC Education Programme (BEP) which states the training objectives: to improve communication skills in English language in the classroom and to develop teaching delivery improvement in English classes. CfL has already completed the needs analysis of fifteen schools and held two workshops with approximately fifty teachers from these schools.

Basic Communication and Teaching Methodologies for Monitors of PACE

The course aims to develop the skills of PACE (Post primary Basic and Continuing Education, BRAC) monitors. It provides support in the areas of speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar and also language teaching methodologies. Here, participants are prepared so that they can apply their basic knowledge using correct grammar structures, syntax and language features of selected models and demonstrate ideas in spoken and written forms. Furthermore, the training enables them to gain confidence and competence in evaluating language teaching at the secondary school level and be able to give constructive feedback. The duration of the course is 6 weeks. The training has five stages: Basic Language Learning, Effective Monitoring and Evaluation Strategies, Supplementary Materials Development to support the books approved by NCTB, Classroom Teaching, and Workshop on Teaching Methodologies.

Academic English Course for BRAC University Institute of Educational Development (IED) Students

This Grammar and Technical Writing Course aims to provide a detailed exposure to academic writing stressing on required grammatical tools and allows the participants, doing a masters or a diploma courses in Education, adequate practice on technical writing. An emphasis is given on the application of rules of grammar and syntax to improve writing effectiveness, aptitude and flow. In addition, the techniques of writing as a process are integrated with sufficient practice. The first group participants were the IED staff followed by the students of ECD (Early Childhood and Development) of IED whose English language skills were not up to the mark to start the ECD course right way. CfL has also conducted the Academic English course for government officials in collaboration with Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University. The key areas of the course were Academic Reading and Writing; Report Writing and the Basic Language Tools.

Afghan Education Management Development Programme

In partnership with BRAC Training Division, CfL has extended its help for Afghan Education Management Development Programme. The core aim of this programme is to support BRAC Training Division to elaborate its education development facility at the international level especially with the basic language part. It is indeed an honour for the centre to help BRAC for its international development wings. In its first phase, CfL provided English training to a group of 20 professionals from the Ministry of Education, Afghanistan. Besides, CfL successfully completed a pilot course between August and September 2008 in Afghanistan with officers working for BRAC, Afghanistan. The key areas of this course are Basic Language Skills, Effective Communication Skills and Cross Cultural Communication.

The English Language Course for Bank Executives:

This course provides information and instruction to Bank executives to gain a better understanding of English to be able to communicate within their respective office arena. It enables learners to demonstrate skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing, and also helps understand the corporate culture. The learners are supported as they learn to communicate in social and academic situations using English. They are introduced to new types of academic texts and assessments as well as skills relevant to learners' current professional context.

IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

CfL is conducting a preparatory course of IELTS, which is an internationally recognized language requirement for higher education, particularly for universities in Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Through this course, CfL provides students an extensive practice of four language skills tested in the IELTS examination and develops knowledge and techniques required to get a high band score. The course introduces the format of the IELTS examination developing students' ability to use the four skills through extensive support of tutoring and assessment.



Medhabikash

Centre for Languages also strives for the welfare of the community. With this aim, it works with Medhabikash, a philanthropic endeavor of BEP (BRAC Education Programme) to promote poor, meritorious GPA 5 holders at SSC and undergraduate level. CfL provides quality education and life skills (Basic English and IT) through three weeks intensive training along with the social skill development with some commendable initiatives like study tour, staying in touch with BRAC University students and other co curricular activities. Here, the motto is to make a difference in the lives of underprivileged children and to develop compassion to share and care. CfL has also successfully trained the BRACU students to conduct classes in English for *Medhabikash* students.

EPDC (English Proficiency Development Course) is another endeavour of Centre for Languages. This course is developed for those who need the basic communication competence



in the working or academic environment. The course provides support for the learners who need to develop their basic competence in English language for communication. The course aims to develop writing skills, which include things like writing personal letters and filling in forms; reading skills, which help the learners to comprehend the messages from advertisements and instructions; speaking and listening skills, with emphasis on awareness of cultural influences on communication. Students also practice a range of study and organizational skills required for independent learning and working in an English speaking environment.

Short Language Programmes

A one-week induction training course was conducted for Young Professional Programme (YPP), Batch 3 from 9th – 26th October, 2010. The course contents covered important areas of Development Studies, Business Communication, English Language and Computer Skills. The participants under the program were the new recruits of BRAC being groomed for mid-level positions.



Workshops:

"Teachers Role in Language Classrooms" conducted by Sanjoy Banerjee, Senior Lecturer, CfL on 22nd April, 2010

"Habits of High-Performing Teachers for Improving Performance" conducted by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University on 30 January & 6 February, 2010.

"Engaging Students in their Learning" conducted by Ms. Ripha Begum, BRAC Porishod Volunteer UK on 24 June, 2010

"Communicative Language Teaching: What we can learn from the Asian experience" conducted by Edward Leffew, Senior English Language Fellow, on 23 October 2010



Seminar on "Grooming and Ettiquettes"

A seminar on 'Grooming and Etiquettes' was held at Savar Residential Campus on 25 November 2010, which was facilitated by Kazi Sarmad Karim, Lecturer, CfL. The session was informal in nature and the discussion was mainly focused on three aspects: how students' appropriate appearance, self-esteem and basic mobile phone manners help create a positive learning environment, boost confidence and

maintain social etiquettes. Some videos on both European and American styles of dining were also shown to acquaint students with basic dining etiquettes in formal situations.

Faculty Members Participate in an International Conference in Nepal

Lisa Ponjetti, an English Language Fellow, and two other faculty members of CfL, Md. Golam Jamil and Sanjoy Banerjee, participated in the 15th International English Language Conference organized by Nepal English Language Teachers' Association (NELTA) from 19 to 21 February 2010 in Katmandu, Nepal. The focus of the conference was 'English in Diversity' and participants from more than fifteen countries joined there.

Lisa Ponzetti conducted two workshops: 'Using Legos to Explore the Learning Experience' and 'Multilevel Classroom: Can the Students Take Control?' Md. Golam Jamil and Sanjoy Banerjee presented two research papers titled 'A Humanistic Approach to Teaching Academic Writing: Learning from BRAC University' and 'Developing Speaking Skills in English through Community Service: EFL/ESL Perspective' respectively.

Awards and achievements

- S. M. Anwaruddin, a CfL Lecturer, has been awarded TFL scholarship to study Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction at Loyola University, Chicago, USA, for two years. Training Future Leaders (TFL) is sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and provides a full scholarship for qualified, elite emerging leaders from the Near East and Asia to pursue a Master's Degree in the US in various fields of study.
- Reeham Chowdhury, a Teaching Assistant at the Centre for Languages (CfL), has received a full scholarship to study Master of Applied Linguistics at Huazhong Normal University in China.
- Md. Golam Jamil has returned to CfL BRACU after successfully completing his MLit. in English Language Teaching (ELT) programme at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. As a part of the degree requirements, he attended one semester at the Centre for Research and Foreign Language Education (CRFLE) at Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), China and was involved in teaching to the secondary school students, studying linguistics and assisting some on-going research activities.
- Liza Reshmin, Lecturer II, participated in the 43rd Annual TESOL Convention held from March 26-28, 2009 in Denver, Colorado, USA. She was selected by BRACU CfL to take part in that conference. She also participated and spoke in a presentation titled "New Pathways for Teacher Training" arranged by Agnieszka Alboszta, instructor and curriculum developer from the University of Oregon, USA.
- CfL has joined in strategic partnerships with international and local partners and is currently working in two programs, MYTEC (Make your Teaching Experience Count), which is a part of the nine year English in Action(EiA) Project, and EIS (English in Schools), both of which aim to improve the English standard of learners of different levels across Bangladesh. The partners of the EIA project are DFID – UK Department for International Development, BBC World Service Trust, BMB Mott MacDonald (the Netherlands), OU- Open University UK, UCEP – Underprivileged Children's

Educational Programme, FIVDB – Friends in Village Development Bangladesh. CfL is the materials developer for the EIS project which is sponsored by ROBI and The Daily Star.

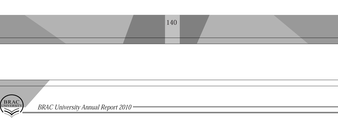
Celebrations

- In collaboration with native Chinese Language instructors Mr. Lu Min, in 2010, CfL organized Chinese Spring Festival at BRAC University Campus in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy.

Research and Publications

The following are the updates of CfL for the Academic year 2010:

- BU CfL and Steven Salchak, Assistant Professor of Writing at the George Washington University (GWU) are offering ENG 103 course. This is a collaborative effort to teaching a project initiated by Professor Salchak. Through this approach, students in CfL's ENG103: Advanced Writing and Presentation course and Prof. Salchak's writing course (under GWU's Women's Leadership Program) have the opportunity to work together. Throughout the semester, students will discuss shared readings; co-write articles based on these readings; develop ideas for research papers; and, provide peer feedback. The objective of the partnership between BRACU and GWU students is to create an opportunity for the students to participate in a larger discourse community. Through correspondence and collaboration, students will broaden their perspectives of themselves, the world, and their place in the world.
- CfL successfully collaborated with BRAC Education Programme (BEP) and completed the Pilot Phase of BRAC Primary School Teachers Training. The training program was designed to improve the quality of English language skills of BRAC Primary School Teachers (BPS) working for the underprivileged children.
- CfL has successfully led the extracurricular and co-curricular activities for the students attending BRACU Residential Semester in Savar for the Academic year 2010. Throughout the semester, the CfL faculty members facilitated and supervised various activities which equip the students with creative skills. Moreover, three weekends are exclusively allotted for CfL activities every semester. The activities in which students were always enthusiastically involved were: Creative Writing Workshop, Drama, Debate, Quiz competition, Jewellery-making, Spelling Bee, Wall Magazine, Vegetables and Fruit Carving, and Chinese Language.
- Farrah Jabeen's article Fantasy and Jonsonian masque was published in Special Issue of BRAC University Journal from the Department of English and Humanities.



Appointments

New Chinese Language instructor joins CfL

Mr. Qilong Nie, Lecturer, Changchun University of Science and Technology, China, has joined BRAC University Centre for Languages (CfL) as a native Chinese Language Instructor. He will work as a fulltime lecturer for two years and offer different Chinese language modules to the prospective learners. Initially, all BRACU students and staffs will receive a discounted course fee. Mr. Nie will be available at CfL during office hours for answering any queries regarding Chinese language studies and/or about the scholarships to study in China.



New Chinese Language Teacher

Mr. Abdur Rahim joined CfL as a full time Chinese language teacher. He earned his M.A degree from Dhaka University in Linguistics in 1996 and later obtained B.A. in Chinese Language and Culture (2002) and M.A. in International Relations (2006) from Beijing Language University of China. Prior to his joining BU CfL, he worked in the United Kingdom as an interpreter of Chinese language in a multinational financial service agency.



Educational Projects

Mentoring Program Launched

CfL has launched a Mentoring Program for the Pre-University Students. In this program, classes will be divided into several groups with a responsible group leader. Each group will get an opportunity to discuss problems related to their study. Facilitators will supervise the group activity twice a week and address the learners' problems instantly. It has adopted the idea of Mentoring Program from BRAC Post Primary Basic and Continuing Education (PACE) with the aim to developing active, independent and learning-oriented students. Pankaj Paul, CfL faculty member, who attended a mentoring workshop arranged by BRAC PACE, is now facilitating the Pre-University Mentoring agenda.

CFPR English Training

English Training for the development managers of the "Challenging the Frontiers of Poverty Reduction" (CFPR) programme of BRAC is a specially designed Functional English course. The core objectives of the course are to prepare learners with essential conversational skills in English to function effectively in real life communication with an emphasis on professional activities. As the participants of this course have to face donors, international visitors and experts, the course also tries to create an opportunity to be aware of social/ business etiquettes and to get exposure to native English language through audio-visual media.

The major language functions that the participants are expected to perform after attending the course are:

- to greet , offer and request
- to describe and compare events, programmes, places and people
- to ask and respond questions correctly
- to give instructions, directions
- to advise

- to talk about possibilities, expectations and certainty
- to interpret graphs, charts, diagrams etc.
- to converse with Native English speakers effectively

English in Action (EiA)

CfL has started working in English in Action (EiA), a British Government funded English language improvement project in Bangladesh, in collaboration with the Open University, UK (OU). The core responsibility of the centre in this project is to assess teachers' progress while participating in th e Make Your Teaching Experience Count (MYTEC), a certificate course offered by OU, Under EiA.

EiA aims to provide the opportunity of communicative English teaching/ learning to more than 25 million Bangladeshi teachers and students to change their lives so that they can make better contributions to the economic growth of the country. Therefore, EiA is conducting training and providing support to teachers so that they can understand the new technologies, their usage in the classroom and be able to prepare innovative materials in such a way that they can indeed lead to improved teaching practices. All these methods introduced here follow the Government of Bangladesh's school curriculum, school textbooks and assessment procedures.

After receiving the initial training from the OU, CfL faculty members are now attending MYTEC cluster meetings at different venues around Bangladesh, giving assignments to the trainee teachers on Reflective Teaching, evaluating their written work and providing feedback in various ways such as in writing, over telephone and in person.

Modern Languages

Considering the global expansion of business and growing demand from BRAC University students and people from all walks of life, CfL has been offering courses in a number of foreign languages, such as English, Chinese, French, Spanish, Japanese, Russian, and of course, Bangla. The Centre's learners include students who need a foreign language for successful admission to a graduate program, and adults who need a foreign language to be successful in the global economy. CfL hopes to assist expatriates living in Dhaka, who need to or would like to learn Bangla. This is also noteworthy that the foreign language classes are held during the day for the BRAC university students and those in the evening are designed to accommodate working participants/learners.

Chinese

Language is the most important aspect of communication. It is the main step to understand people and other's culture across the boundaries. Considering the global expansion of business and growing demand from people, CfL has started focusing on specific languages. Because of the expansion of China's economic globalization it is now very important to learn Chinese language. As a result students, businessman, travelers have been showing interest to learn Chinese language. CFL has the most qualified faculty members to teach Chinese language and culture.

CfL offers the following types of courses:

Three months basic Chinese course for beginners (40 hours)

Six month s long business Chinese courses (75 hours)

One year long certificate course

The courses are conducted by Mr. Rahim, and by Mr. Qilong, Chinese language teachers of CfL.

Student Affairs

BRAC University's mission is to achieve excellence in all rounded education. The components of all around education, i.e., learning, development and identify formation are interactive and add to each other. The students can experience all of these through participating in co-curricular activities along with regular studies. University's Student Affairs (SA) provides full support in this respect by supervising activities of student clubs and forums.

Clubs and Forums

The co-curricular arena of the university is quite vibrate and student-oriented. The composition of each club or forum includes teacher/staff advisors and student representatives. Enrolment of members is done during the club fair held each semester. The Director of the Student Affairs supervises the activities with the help of an assistant director and a student affairs officer. A multiuse hall, two eighty-seat lecture halls, cafeteria and a planted semi-outdoor space with technical support are used for seminars, workshop, exhibitions, indoor games, competitions, fairs and cultural activities. The BRACU residential campus in Savar provides a play field for outdoor games. The facilities of BRAC throughout the country such as training centers with dormitories, transport and guides are available for tours and other events.

A yearly award system has been introduced for the students with major contribution as well as for the most active clubs. The SA has currently adopted the "Ambassador Program", where students good in leadership, time management, collaboration & teamwork are selected from clubs and forums and trained to represent the university.

Annual assessment of the co-curriculum activities has been conducted since 2006. University rules have been introduced for participating in the activities without hindering academic performance.

The Student Affairs emphasizes on the wholeness of university experience through synchronized development of body, mind and spirit. It aims at integrating co-curricular with academic learning, and stresses on service learning through community volunteer work.

South Asian Universities Youth Festival-SAUFEST 5

SAUFEST or the South Asian Universities Youth Festival is an annual event initiated and coordinated by the Association of Indian Universities, and is usually hosted by a university in a South Asian country. The main objective of this festival is to enrich the minds of the students of the participating universities through cultural exchange; this also helps in strengthening the bonds of friendship among them and thus among the future generation of leaders in participating countries.

BRAC University Student Affairs organized the 5th South Asian Universities Youth Festival, SAUFEST 5 in December 2010. This was a great honor for BRAC University as it was the first time SAUFEST was held in Bangladesh. A total of 110 student participants from different universities from seven South Asian countries namely NEPAL, BHUTAN, SRILANKA, INDIA, AFGANISTAN, PAKISTAN, MALDIVES along with the host country Bangladesh took part in the festival. The week-long event was held at BRAC University's sprawling Savar campus. 54 volunteers from the university along with 30 teachers and staff managed the successful week-long program. Overall supervision was carried out by Dr. Zainab Faruqui Ali, Director of Student Affairs. The various events were coordinated by Dr. Tureen Afroz and Md. Hafizul Hasan, members of the faculty. The delegates from the seven embassies were present at different sessions. Dr. Dipu Moni, honorable Minister for Foreign

Affairs inaugurated the festival and Abul Kalam Azad, the honorable minister for Information and Cultural Affairs, was present at the closing session. The whole event was covered by the national and private media. The financial support for the festival was obtained from BRAC University, High Commission of India, BRAC Bank, Aarong Milk, Aarong, BRAC Bank, South Asian Foundation, Bashati Builders and NESCAFE. The events included photography exhibition, painting, sketching, sculpture, public speaking, quiz competition, art exhibition, classical, instrumental & light vocal music; folk, classical and modern dance; *Hari Bhanga*, ice and fire shows, Yoga, *pitha uthshab*, and a fair complete with Ferris wheel rides, handicraft stalls, *mehedi*, face painting, bioscope, and fireworks. The Slogan of SAUFEST'05 was **'FRIENDSHIP FOREVER'.**

There are 26 student clubs and forums in different categories of:

- Arts/ Cultures
- Social welfare/ Community services
- International
- Entrepreneurial
- Subject related
- Sports
- Science

These clubs and forums provide opportunities for developing leadership, confidence, goal setting, and sense of ownership, time management, collaboration and teamwork.

Major activities of clubs and forums include:

- Club Fair
- Film Show
- Cricket, Football and Indoor Games
- Trade Fair
- Voluntary Blood Donation Campaign
- Community Volunteer Work
- Art, Photography and Hobby Exhibition
- Seminar and workshop
- Competitions in Art, Debate, Music, Photography, Film
- Celebration of National and International events such as Pohela Boishakh, International Mother Language day, Independence day, Victory Day.
- Business plan, Computer programming, Photography.
- Newsletter
- National and Regional Festivals
- Study Tour
- Annual Drama
- Archives
- Annual Cultural Program
- Research
- Concert
- Help Group/Help Sessions

Annual Activity Summary 2010-2011

Sl. No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
1.	Adventure Club	**Spring** a) Launching Program	13/02/2011
2.	AIESEC	**Summer** a) Team's Day Recruitment b) Local Induction Conference c) Meet The Leaders **Fall** d) Local Induction Conference e) Entrepreneurship Workshop f) Celebrating Victory Day **Spring** g) Exchange Seminar	- - - 24/09/2010 20/10/2010 16/12/2010 08/03/2011
3.	ART SOCIETY	**Summer** a) Introduction Art Society **Fall** b) Art Competition **Spring** c) Jol Ron	- 14/10/2010 10/02/2011

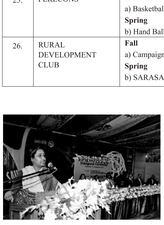
Sl. No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
4.	BIZ BEE	**Summer** a) Face 2 Face b) Challenges of the corporate sector **Fall** c) Face 2 Face d) Leadership & Business Plan e) Future of The Golden Fiber f) Business Magazine **Spring** g) Face 2 Face h) Mock Interview i) Investing in the Stock Market	- - - - - 09/02/2011 12/02/2011 29/03/2011
5.	COMPUTER CLUB	**Summer** a) Fresher Orientation b) Software Training c) Workshop Web Developing d) Micro Controller **Fall** e) Technical Seminar f) Inter University Computer Programming g) Programming Contest 2010 h) Pppxperts Seminar 2010 i) Gaming Contest **Spring** j) Microsoft Imagine Cup k) EWU IT Fest 2011 l) Fresher Orientation m) Top Bu Programming Contest n) Seminar on Linux o) Workshop on Micro Controller p) IBBL IUT 3rd National ICT Fest	- - - - 26/09/2010 16/10/2010 23/10/2010 06/11/2010 03/11/2010 25/01/2011 04/02/2011 15/02/2011 12/03/2011 15/03/2011 09/03/2011 07/04/2011
6.	CULTURAL CLUB	**Summer** a) Rhythm Revive b) Jolsha c) Student for Student d) Participating on cultural competition organized by BUET e) ACE Ground Musical **Fall** f) Rhythm Revive g) Jolsha **Spring** h) Rhythm Revive i) Exchange seminar j) Moushumi Bhoumik k) Jolsha	- 21/7/2010 26/7/2010 - - 07/10/2010 21/10/2010 12/02/2011 08/03/2011 29/03/2011 14/03/2011

Sl. No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
7.	CRICKET CLUB	**Summer** a) Friendly Match **Fall** b) Inter University Cricket Championship c) ULAB Fair Play Registration	- 29/10/2010 12/01/2011
8.	DEBATING CLUB	**Spring** a) UIU Debate Championship b) Workshop: Sher-e-Bangla Agri University	25/02/2011 12/01/2011
9.	DRAMA CLUB	**Summer** a) FNF Programm b) Dramatic **Fall** c) BUDTF FNF d) Dramatic **Spring** e) Induction f) ADDA g) DRAMATIC	09/07/2010 25/07/2010 08/10/2010 01/12/2010 11/02/2011 11/03/2011 10/04/2011
10.	ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT FORUM	**Summer** a) Becoming & Entrepreneur b) Meet The Creative Leader **Fall** c) Orientation Program d) Meet The Entrepreneur **Spring** e) Prelude f) Entrepreneurship Development in Bangladesh	- - 20/10/2010 29/11/2010 13/02/2011 13/03/2011
11.	ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS CLUB	**Summer** a) Reflection Program b) Intra University Electroquest c) Inter University Electroquest **Fall** d) Reflection Program **Spring** e) Reflection Program f) Robolution 2011	- 24/07/2010 01/08/2010 11/10/2010 20/02/2011 20/03/2011

Sl. No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
12.	FILM CLUB	**Summer** a) Intro view b) Village Road Show c) Da Circle d) Before Sunrise e) Film Festival f) Alliance Francaise de Dacca **Fall** g) Intro view h) Da Circle Movie Audition i) Road Show Jaago j) Film Screening k) Da Circle **Spring** l) Weave Warmth m) Intro view n) Premier o) Outdoor GBM p) Da Circle q) Seminar in collaboration with BYF	- - - - - - 02/10/2010 13/10/2010 06/11/2010 24/11/2010 03/12/2010 24/01/2011 05/02/2011 23/02/2011 17/03/2011 01/04/2011 25/03/2011
13.	FOOTBALL CLUB	**Fall** a) Inter University Football Tournament **Spring** b) Intra University Football Tournament	- 11/02/2011
14.	GLOBAL AFFAIRS FORUM	**Summer** a) Seminar on the achievement of Musa Ibrahim **Fall** b) Orientation Program **Spring** c) Fresher Orientation d) Book Fair	13/07/2010 13/10/2010 13/02/2011 22/02/2011
15.	HERITAGE FORUM	**Summer** a) Workshop on Photography **Fall** b) Quiz Competition c) National Victory Day **Spring** d) Share n Express e) International Mothers Language Day f) National Independence Day g) Cartoon Competition	20/07/2010 31/10/2010 16/12/2010 15/02/2011 21/02/2011 26/03/2011 03/04/2011

Sl. No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
16.	HOUSE of VOLUNTEERS	**Summer** a) Personal Development season **Fall** b) Orientation **Spring** c) Environmental Development of Bangladesh d) Lake Clean Up	- - 11/02/2011 25/03/2011
17.	INDOOR GAMES CLUB	**Summer** a) Intra University TT Tournament b) Annual TT Tournament **Fall** c) Annual Carom Tournament **Spring** d) UIU Inter University TT Championship	24/05/2010 22/07/2010 28/11/2010 15/02/2011
18.	LAW CLUB	**Summer** a) Published Newsletter **Fall** b) Published Newsletter c) International Human Rights **Spring** d) Warm Cloth distribution Campaign e) Singapore Youth Exchange Programme	(July-August) (Sep- Nov) 04/12/2010 28/01/2011 16/03/2011
19.	MEDIA & JOURNALISM FORUM	**Spring** a) Shopnojatra b) Voice	12/02/2011 03/04/2011
20.	MONON	**Summer** a) Seminar on stress management **Fall** b) Orientation c) Self Confidence Workshop **Spring** d) Comedy Show	19/07/2010 14/10/2010 21/10/2010 06/02/2011
21.	MOOT COURT SOCIETY	**Summer** a) Discussion Session **Fall** b) Celebreting 2 Years of The Moot Court Society **Spring** c) Abar 71	- 15/08/2010 27/04/2011

Sl. No.	CLUBS/FORUMS	ACTIVITY	EVENT DATE
22.	NATURAL SCIENCE CLUB	**Summer** a) Orientation & Documentary show **Spring** b) Fresher Orientation	11/08/2010 09/02/2011
23.	OIKOS DHAKA	**Summer** a) Learning Event on National Budget on Accountability b) Leadership Program **Fall** c) Stand for Sundarban **Spring** d) Hepatitis B Vaccination Program e) Fresher Orientation f) Hepatitis B Vaccination Program	03/06/2010 01/11/2010 31/01/2011 09/02/2011 07/03/2011 -
24.	PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB	**Fall** a) Make re-usable Frames **Spring** b) Exhibition	- 25/12/2010
25.	PERECONS	**Fall** a) Basketball Tournament **Spring** b) Hand Ball Tournament	- 09/04/2011
26.	RURAL DEVELOPMENT CLUB	**Fall** a) Campaign on Health Care & Sanitation **Spring** b) SARASAWTI PUJA	06/11/2010 08/02/2011





*5th South Asian University Youth Festival in Bangladesh BRAC University.



*Moushumi Bhoumik's show hosted by BRAC University Cultural Club.



Book Fair organized by Global Affairs forum



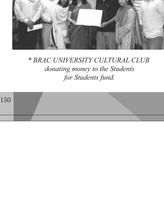
* International Mother Language Day organized by Heritage Forum.



Seminar on GOLDEN FIBER of BANGLADESH organized by BIZ BEE



*Inter semester Football Tournament organized by Football club.



* BRAC UNIVERSITY CULTURAL CLUB donating money to the Students for Students fund.

Residential Semester
An Innovative Experiential Learning Initiative of BRAC U

The Residential Summer (RS) was the outcome of initial strategic planning exercises of BRAC University Initiative for Learning and Development (BUILD) which took place during the early development phase of the university. The first RS was organized in the year 2002 (summer semester with 44 students). By 2010 a total of 25 Residential Semesters were organized and a total of 3590 students were graduated from RS. The academic vision of founders of BRAC University would like to prepare wise, sensed and responsible leaders for the country and BRAC University would like to see its graduates as competent, enlightened, value driven and responsive citizens of the country. The RS is very much designed and incorporated in the process of university curriculum to achieve these objectives. The year 2010 (Spring: 23rd Summer: 24th and Fall: 25th).

The Residential Semester (RS) at BRAC University has constantly earned a good reputation and became very popular among the students. It is commonly said that BRAC students attending the Residential Semester cry twice; firstly while going there (as they don't like to leave their families) and secondly while they are coming back from the semester (this time they don't like to leave the campus).

All students enrolling in BRACU are required to attend the Residential Semester. However, they do their first semester in the Mohakhali Campus and they need to attend RS at Savar Campus during their second semester. Systematic efforts were taken to design the implementation phase of this program in a manner that maximizes opportunities of interaction between students and Residential Semester co-ordinators (RA).

The objectives of the RS are to:

- Exposing the students in community living and preparing them to be socially responsible persons.
- Nurturing the students to be ethical in their personal and professional life.
- Understanding and appreciating the history and culture of Bangladesh.
- Enhancing their communicative English.
- Fostering the creativity and leadership quality of the students.
- Preparing them to be sensitive on cultural diversity.

A daylong orientation programme for the newly enrolled students of RS was organized at Mohakhali on January 16, May 13 and September 18 for the Spring, Summer and Fall semesters. The supervisors of the sessions were facilitated by Professors Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC of BRACU and Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, Campus Superintendent of Savar Campus, where all the students and the course teachers introduced themselves to the students. Course teachers of three courses of RS (English, Studies, Ethics and Culture and English) gave short briefings about their courses. In these courses emphasis of worked is groups to develop their social capital and to make them ready for the challenges and opportunities would follow during their stay at Savar Campus. The group works were followed by a primary session for developing their list of social capital. The social capital was proposed based on three categories (what I am, what they believe, b) which they are going to practice and c) which they are going to promote. Later on, all the students endorsed the final list of social capital by signing on the commitment sheet. The RS aims to develop social capital in terms of Ethics and Culture course and all the faculty teaching in RS are responsible to effective implementation of this social capital both in the class and outside the class. The application of social capital is monitored based on some well chosen indicators both in the mid-term and final exams.

Social Learning Lab: a Unique Simulation Exercise on Experiential Learning

Social Learning Lab is one most the powerful experiential learning exercise in which all of the students are involved in different identified days in batches to take over and manage the entire

Students SIs of 2010 (spring, summer and fall semester):
A total of 752 students (350 female and 394 male) graduated from the RS during the year 2010. Female ratio is 47% and male is 53%.

PROGRAM	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
LLB	24	28	52
BBS	201	151	352
CSE	38	22	60
ELS	17	12	29
ENH	10	40	50
ESK	32	26	58
ARC	13	41	54
EEE	59	53	112
APE	10	11	21
TOTAL	394	358	752

The trend of students graduated from the RS during 2003 to 2009 are shown in Table # 02.

Number of RS Students (2003 - 2009)

Year/Semester	Spring	Summer	Fall	Total
2002		44	164	208
2003	100	110	140	350
2005	155	130	269	483
2006	223	157	153	533
2007	96	175	193	464
2008	201	142	162	505
2009	122	237	190	549
		Grand Total		3256

Academic and Extended Learning Activities taken in the Year 2010:

The Beginning of RS Journey: A Day Long Orientation



BRAC and BRAC University by sharing the information about the programmes of both the organizations. Mr. Muhammad A. (Rumee) Ali, Managing Director of BRAC Enterprises; Ms. Julia Tantlier, Chief Executive Officer of CORPORATECH and Ms Tahmina Zaman Khan, Executive Committee Member of BRAC University Alumni Association were the special guests at the event.

The guests discussed on the issues related to the present job market and answered the questions from the audience. Additionally, Mr Muhammad A. (Rumee) Ali focused on the concepts and operational aspects of BRAC's various enterprises and encouraged students to value their commitments to the society. In this regard he emphasized on the need for having more social entrepreneurs in the country. The students of BRAC University Senior Residential Campus participated in the session actively and raised a good number of questions during the question answer session. Mr. Md Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, the Campus Superintendent, concluded the session with a vote of thanks.

'Seminar on Grooming and Etiquettes':

A seminar on 'Grooming and Etiquettes' was organized at Savar Residential Campus on 25th November 2010 and facilitated by Kazi Samad Karim, Lecturer of CSE. The session was informal in nature and the discussion was mainly focused on three aspects: how students' appropriate appearance, refinement and basic mobile phone manners help create a positive learning environment, boost confidence and maintain social etiquette. Some videos on both European and American styles of dining were also shown to acquaint students with basic dining etiquettes in the international arena. Mr. Md Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, the Campus Superintendent, concluded the session by sharing some of his personal anecdotes contouring the eating habits in Bangladesh and the rest of the world.

Orientation on BRAC:



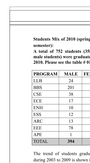


RS Days:

The RS Day is observed in each semester where noted personalities are invited to talk as the Chief Guest. The RS Day of Spring semester was held on 7th March. Major (Retd.) Kamrul Hassan Bhuiyan, Chairman & Chief Researcher, Centre for Bangladesh Liberation War Studies was the Guest of Honour for that day. He shared some of his experiences of liberation war with the students. The RS Day of Summer was held on 3rd July. The secretary of the student body. The RS Day of the Summer semester was held on June 28, 2010. Professor Aimee Nolan, Vice Chancellor, BRACU was the Guest of Honor. Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRACU, Professor Syed M Hashemi, Director, BRAC Development Institute, BRAC, faculty members, Staffs of BRACU and BRAC were present on the occasion. The RS Day of Fall semester was held on October 12, 2010. Professor Jeff Unsicker, SIT Graduate Institute, Vermont, USA, was the Guest of Honor. The guest gave a speech on "professional career development" and Dr. Imran Rahman, Joyeeta Mohammad Shams, the Semester Secretary received a warm and grave welcome from the students. Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Cathy Rupsha Sarkar, Sports Secretary of that semester also addressed the gathering.

Museum Visits:

As a part of the Bangladesh studies course (HIV101), all students visited some of the villages nearby the Savar Campus during the semester. The students were divided into groups, one in each village. Each group was led by a teacher or staff of RS. Through these visits, students were exposed to the Bangladeshi villages life and culture in a very close proximity. They also accompanied the students in some of these visits. After returning from the villages the students took part in reflection sessions in the evening.



Wall Magazine Article:

The first issue of Wall Magazine Articles was launched by the Campus Super on February 21, 2010 following the Pohelar Fotey. It was organized by Mr. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury along with his RS team and most of the RS students were present at the event.

A group of Japanese students visit Savar Campus:

A group of Japanese students from SWITCH (an association of the Japanese Universities whose aim is to strengthening relationship through cultural exchange) Visited Savar Campus on February 11 and March 11, 2010. They took part in Volleyball, Bon Chee, Kazu Match, Cricket, Igshi, Sumo Wrestling with our students. They also exchanged views with our students and talked about their country through a power point presentation and question answering session and in the same way our students also presented Bangladesh. A cultural program was held where the Japanese students performed their traditional fashion show and dancers and our students also did the same.

Kite Flying Day at Savar Campus:

RS students organized a 'Kite Flying Day' at BU Campus, Savar on March 18, 2010. The students had great fun threading the kites and then flying them in the play field. This was a record kite-flying day since the Chaitra' Srazee helped all the kites fly very high in the sky. The staff of BRACU, teachers and house tutors also actively took part in the event.

Parents Days:

'Parents' Days' were organized in each semester and most of the students' parents came to see their wards. It was a day of joy and happiness.

Art Exhibition:

The RS Students organized art exhibition at Savar campus on March 22, 2010. The inauguration of the event was held at moderator at 5:30 PM. It was inaugurated by honorable campus superintendent Mr. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury.

Independence Day Program at Savar Campus:

On the eve of Independence Day, students, staff and faculty members of RS organized a program at the Residential Campus of BRAC University. TARC, Savar. The program started in the morning with a flag ceremony. RS Campus Super, faculty members and other staff of BRACU and BRAC. They placed a flower wreath at the replica of National Memorial at Savar. Then there was a discussion session and a triumphant procession around the campus. In the evening a cultural program was organized and students rendered songs, recited poems and performed dance.

MuKtijuddha Dibosh:

On 2nd April 'Muktijuddha Dibosh' at Savar campus organized by RDS and CIL was a huge success. The campus got festive look with Bangladesh flags all over. The Program started at 10:30 AM with the hoisting of the national flag and the hoisting of the national flag. Students listened to the emotional speech of Major Kamrul Islam who was in sector 4 during the war. Many students were wiping their eyes. Dr. Hashemi (director of BDI) invited four of his comrades from the Crack Platoon to reminisce with the students. This was the most memorable moment of the day. Rumee and was responsible for many of the daring operations in Dhaka, including the bombing of the Sheraton Hotel (then Intercontinental), they talked about their training, their lives as guerrillas and some of their operations. The students listened to rapt attention throughout the 2 hour 10 minute program. quite a few times.

Students had also organized speeches on what the war of liberation meant to them, and a very lively debate on the role of women in the war of independence. Students also organized a one hour cultural program singing songs from 1971, reciting poems and reading letters of Shahids. Someone even read out a newly composed "Chasoon Patro" reflecting the Shadhin Bangla Bimaan Bandu presentations by Late M A Akbar Khan.

Sir Abed's Documentary:

On 21st October, the first part of Sir Abed's Documentary was screened in Mahfuz Auditorium 2:00pm-4:00pm which was followed by a quiz. Mr. Mahfuz (faculty of Bangladesh Studies) conducted the program. The 2nd part of the documentary was screened on 28 October, same time and same venue, and ended up with a quiz.

Pujo and Eid:

ZOAR: A drama

As part of Extended Learning Activity, Popular Theater titled "ZOAR" on BRAC Programs & Activities was held in Savar Campus on November 03, 2010 by BRAC Popular theater group, Mymensingh. The program started at 6:30 pm and continued till 7:15 pm. It was held at DURANTO field and for that a beautiful stage was built there. The theme of the drama was on Education, Shamimul Ali Rozzi, staff of BRACU, BRAC and BRAC trainees sat on three sides of the stage and the remaining one of the fullest. The content of the show included all BRAC programs and activities such as BRAC Education Program,

Extended Learning Activities (ELA)

Extended Learning Activities are an integral part of RS where students learn by doing things for themselves. These are outside-classroom-time activities and designed to help students reinforce their classroom learning. These activities are also complementary to the academic courses delivered in the classroom. A list of these activities is mentioned below:

- Wall magazine
- Language course
- Project Based Presentation
- Debate
- Quiz
- Spelling competition
- Vegetables and Fruits Carving
- BRAC Program visit
- Village Immersion Visit by students
- Historical places visit
- Film
- Folk song and music
- Movies & Documentaries
- Social learning lab
- Organization visit
- Theater

Campus Activities:

- Sports
- Cultural activities
- Leadership building exercise
- Observing National Days
- Seminars and workshops

Integration of Learning among Courses and Extended Learning Activities:

Several discussions meetings and consultations are usually organized with all key stakeholders (Director CIL, Faculty involved in RS teaching, Faculty of TLC, House Tutors, Campus Super and other support staff) before the beginning of each semester to review the course curricula, the ELA and the CLWs. The main purpose of these meetings is to integrate learning among the academic courses and the ELA. Through this special semester, BRACU wants to ensure that the students will become a 'complete being' by bringing a harmony between academic learning and the real life experiences. These activities allow students to learn outside the classroom. The CLWs and the beneficial courses and inter course reflection meetings are being held every week. by the teachers to share experiences of various courses and make plan of course integration for the next week. Besides, the faculty members also discuss lesson plans and course materials according to the course objectives and they share their proposed plans and materials for the class and get feedback from others. This process is practiced regularly during the entire semester to maintain unity and integration between course objectives. Cross class visits are also arranged by the course teachers for teachers to understand the scopes and process of integration better. Besides, the students need to write a synthesis report on Reflection of Learning on their courses. This process has been introduced to develop the ability of students' critical thinking.

Savar BRACU campus by themselves. It is a day when most of the laborers and administrative staff enjoy day off and the students take entire responsibility to run the center. In this simulation process all the positions (from managerial and support staff) of the center are replaced (by the students) and they run the center in their own manner and then followed during their stay at Savar Campus. The group works were followed by a primary session for developing their list of social capital. The social capital was proposed based on three categories (what I am, what they believe, b) which they are going to practice and c) which they are going to promote. Later on, all the students endorsed the final list of social capital by signing on the commitment sheet. The RS aims to develop social capital in terms of Ethics and Culture course and all the faculty teaching in RS are responsible for effective implementation of this social capital both in the class and outside the class. The application of social capital is monitored based on some well chosen indicators both in the mid-term and final exams.

Seminar on Savings and Investment:

Seminar on drug abuse was organized in each semester. The seminars were moderated by Brother Ronald Drahozal, CSC, director of AFON (Ashoki Paurbachalik Nibash). He explained how AFON is working to provide drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation services and makes these services readily available and accessible for the drug addicts. One of those recovering drug addicts of AFON was always there in the seminar to share his experiences.

Presentation on Chinese Language & Culture:

Presentations on Chinese Language & Culture were held on January 23 and May 25, 2010 and conducted by Mr. Abdur Rahim & Mr. Qudong, two Chinese instructors of CIL. All the students of RS were present in the sessions.

Creating Residential Semester Blog:

Sessions on blogging were held at Markeli Hall on May 20 and October 13, 2010 where the usage of blog was discussed in details. The sessions were conducted by Mr. Asif Kamal. Later a Blog for the Residential Semester was created for RS students.

Seminar on Adhabali:

On 25 October, a lecture on Adhbabli was held at Markeli hall as a part of extended learning activities initiated by the students' union. Sanjib Dowag conducted the session.

Meet the Employers career counseling session held at Savar semester:

'Meet the Employers' a two hour semi-formal session on career counseling for the students of Savar Residential Campus, was held on 4th November 2010. The session was intended to provide some career orientations to the participants on deciding their future careers. Besides, it aimed to create the synergy between

arranged a workshop on "Orientation on counseling services" at Savar Campus, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm for residential students. All the students (334) of residential Semester were present in the seminar. Farida Akter, a Psychologist and Mahbuba Nasrin Sumi, lecturer and senior counselor of ESS, conducted the workshop. Mr. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, Mr. Mahnaraz Alavi and Mujaddedi Abdul Wasai - Counselors of BRAC University were present. The objective of the workshop was to help the students to be aware about the role of the counseling team.

CIL Weekends:

CIL Weekend activities are organized three times in each semester. The students are invited to speak and flourish his/her respective hidden talent, CIL offers and organizes, like every semester, many debate and other curricular activities at Savar Campus such as Jewelery box making, debating, quiz competition, Wall Magazine, creative writing drama writing and so on. The students were given the opportunity to do day to day communicate in English with each other, work in groups and nourish their dormant talent. Lady Syeda Sarwat Abed, Director CIL was present on the final weekends in each semester and distributed prizes amongst the winners of various activities.

Celebrating BRAC:

In August 6, 7 and 8, students and faculty members of BRACU University Savar campus spent three days between the 36th and 37th year of learning, growing and working with BRAC. Students and staff engaged in bringing difference in the lives of tens of millions of poor people. Through hosted within the BRAC family, students rarely get a chance to understand BRAC's mission and activities. The Savar students from BRAC

Career Services Office (CSO) Overview, 2010

BRAC University is providing career advisory services to undergraduate and graduate students through Career Services Office (CSO). In the extremely competitive job market it has become necessary to enhance the professional qualities of students along with their educational strengths. CSO is working to support students to choose successful career options. The services are accessed through the CSO website (www.bracu.ac.bd/cso) and produced 3500+ hits during 2010. A more than 1500 students are currently registered with the site and availing various services from CSO. We are working with more than 150 local and multinational organizations to bridge the students before and after graduation for choosing a career.

Core advisory services of the office are as follows:

- Career Counseling
- CV referrals for jobs
- CV reviewing
- Arranging Internships
- Arranging Networking Sessions
- Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP) – through this program 98% of our total graduates are being trained
- Organizing various trainee programs

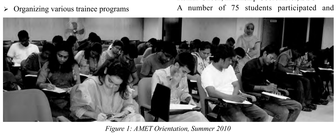


Figure 1: AMET Orientation, Summer 2010

Activity Highlights, 2010:

❖ **January, 2010:**

On-Campus Interview by BRAC Internship Unit
Date: 06 January
Participated Organization: BRAC Internship Unit

Internship Orientation Session for Architecture students of semester: Spring and Summer, 2010
Date: 12 January and 24 August
Speaker: Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge of the Career Services Office;
Organizers: Ms. Seikh Rubaiya Sultana, Sr. Lecturer, Department of Architecture.

Seminar by Jobsbd.com
Date: 26 January
Key presenter: Mr. Aslam Parvez, Operation Manager, jobsbd.com (former Job Street. com).

❖ **March, 2010:**

Seminar on "Manners & Etiquette"
Date: 31 March
Speaker: Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU.
Venue: UB 0223

❖ **May, 2010:**

Internship Presentation for BUS 400: Spring, Summer and Fall 2010
Date: 05 May, 30 September and 09 December
Organizers: Career Services Office and Mr. Suntu Kumar Ghosh, Internship Coordinator, BIBS
A number of 75 students participated and



Figure 2: Mr. Aminul Haque, Head of Capital Markets, BRAC EPL

presented their internship report to their assigned academic supervisors from BRAC Business School.

Applied Microsoft Excel Training AMET Orientation
Date: 18 May
Key Speakers: Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services Office and Dr. Khalilur Rahman, Assistant Professor, School of Computer Science and Engineering.

Seminar by BRAC EPL
Date: 13 June
Speakers: Mr. Aminul Haque, Head of Capital Markets, BRAC EPL and Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services.

Personal Development for BRACU, RS Students
Date: 20 June
Speakers: Professor. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir Pro-VC, BRACU; Mahbuba Naznin Sani, Lecturer, Economics Department, Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Service Office, and Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Jr. Lecturer, TLC.
Venue: Savar Campus

❖ **July, 2010:**

Seminar with Bangladesh Navy
Date: 12 July
Speakers: Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU and Commander Nasarullah, Bangladesh Navy and Lt. Commander Sharif,



Figure 3: Workshop on Personal Development BRACU, RS Students

Professional Skills Development Program (PSDP) Orientation Summer 2010
Date: 19 May
Speakers: Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services Office.
Venue: UB223

❖ **June, 2010:**

Career Seminar by Jobsbd.com
Date: 09 June
Key presenter: Mr. Aslam Parvez, Operation Manager, jobsbd.com.

Bangladesh Navy.
Venue: Indoor Games Room



Figure 4: Seminar with Bangladesh NAVY



Figure 5: PSDP Final Assessment Summer 2010

❖ **August, 2010:**

PSDP Final Assessment Summer 2010
Date: 28 August
Guests: Mr. Dominic S. V. Bennett, General Manager, HR & Training Aarong, Mr. Rezaul Kabir, Chief Operating Officer of Novotel, Mr. Monojit Kumar Ojha, Head of Accounts, BRACU and Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-charge, Career Services Office, BRACU.



Figure 6: Internship Orientation, Summer 2010

Internship Orientation for BUS 400 of Semester: Spring, Summer and Fall, 2010
The orientation is conducted every semester for the students enrolled for BUS 400 to guide them for successful internship completion by Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services Office.



Figure 7: PSDP Orientation, Fall 2010

❖ **September, 2010:**

Professional Skill Development Program (PSDP) Orientation for Spring 2011, Summer 2011 and Fall2010:
Date: January, April and September, 2011
Speakers: Professor Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services Office.

Applied Microsoft Excel Training (AMET)
Date: 22 September
Speakers: Dr. Md. Khalilur Rahman, Assistant Professor and Mr. Farazul H. Bhuiyan, Lecturer, Computer Science Department and Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-charge of the Career Services Office. A number of 25 students successfully completed the Training Course.

PSDP Fall 2010 Coordination Meeting
Date: 25 September
Guests: Mr. Rezaul Kabir, CIO, Novotel, Ms. Sharmin Sultana, Human Resource Manager, Robi Axiata Limited and Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services Office.



Figure 8: Seminar with Enosis Solution

❖ **October, 2010:**

Seminar with Enosis Solution
Date: 05 October
Speakers: Mr. Sadad Anwar, Asst. Operations Manager from Enosis Solutions and Prof. Mumit Khan, Chairperson, Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE).
Venue: BBS conference room.

Personal Development Training at BRAC University Residential Semester, Savar Campus
Date: 07 October
Speakers: Professor Dr. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Service Office, and Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Jr. Lecturer, Teaching and Learning Center.
Venue: TARC Savar

Road Show at BRACU Campus by Standard Chartered Bank Ltd (SCBL).
Date: 12 October
Speakers: Ms. Deneb Zeenat Latif, Senior Resourcing Manager, SCB, Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BBA program and Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU.
Venue: Indoor Games Room

Round Table Discussion with Aga Khan Education Services
Date: 14 October
Speakers: Mr. Amyn Salch, Director, Aga Khan Education services Ms. Sacqueline Parai, Head of Education and Ms. Shemoul Hamid, Assistant Head, Aga Khan Education Services.
Venue: UB0503

Seminar: Seminar on "Manners & Etiquette"
Date: 21 October
Speaker: Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU.
Venue: UB 0223



Figure 9: Standard Chartered Bank Ltd. Road Show

BizMaestros Competition by Unilever at BRACU Campus
Date: 24 October
Speakers: Mr. Jery Josh, Director of HR, Unilever and Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BBS.
Venue: UB0223
It was a business case completion initiated by Unilever Bangladesh. BRAC University was 2nd runners up in this competition where 7 of the leading universities took part in the competition.



Figure 10: Training on Professional Development



Figure 11: BRAC Bank Road Show

A training course on Professional Development by Career Services Office
Date: 25-30 October
Participated Organizations: Sheltech (Pvt.) Ltd. and Platinum Suites
Speakers: Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-charge, Career Services Office and Ms. Samina Anzum, Jr. Lecturer, Teaching & Learning Centre.
Venue: Platinum Suites conference room

BRAC Bank Ltd. Road Show at BRACU Campus
Date: 31 October
Participated Organizations: BRAC Bank Limited and Career Services Office (CSO), BRAC University
Speakers: Ms. Tahniyat Ahmed Karim, Head of HR, BRAC Bank and Dr. Sanaul Mostafa, Director, BBS.

❖ **November, 2010:**

On Campus Assessment Test for BRAC EPL
Date: 29 November
Organizers: BRAC EPL and Career Services office (CSO), BRACU
Screening done by: Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, Career Services Office, Mr. Tanzim Samad Choudhury Administrative Officer, Save the Children (UK).

Convocation Photo-session of 6th Convocation for the souvenir

Date: 02-06 November and 11 December, 2010
Organizers: Career Services Office Team and 7 Volunteers coordinated the event successfully and 450 students from the graduating batch got their pictures taken for the photo-session.

Internship Placement Highlights of BBA, 2010:
Internship is twelve week professional attachment with an organization which is mandatory for BBA graduate students. BBA students earn 4 credits through internship (BUS400).

Table 1: Internship Placement, 2010

Placed by	Number	Percentage
CSO	82	69%
Self	36	31%
Total	118	100%

Table 2: Sector-wise Placement

Sector	Number	Percentage
FMCG	21	18%
Bank	59	50%
Telecom	8	7%
Airline	3	2%
Finance	2	2%
NGO	3	2%
HR	2	2%
Others	20	17%
Total	118	100%



Figure 12: Sector Wise Placement

Internship of Architecture, 2010:

To fulfill the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Architecture in BRAC University, an architecture student who has completed her/his fourth year needs to work as an architectural trainee at an architectural firm of repute. The architectural firm can be in Bangladesh or abroad. The objective of the internship is to gain knowledge of the professional practice. As a requirement of ARC 300: Practical Training, the following students have completed their internship. A special session is conducted every semester for Architecture students by CSO before they take up their internship.

Table 3 ARC Interns of Semester Spring 2010

NAME	Name of the Firm
SHAREQ RAUF CHOWDHURY	**MARINA TABASSUM Architects** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SYED SAQIFUL HASSAN	**Puraloy Prokaushali Ltd.** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SUHAILEY FARZANA	**VASTU SHILPA Consultants** Ahmedabad,India.
MOHAMMAD INTEZA SHARIAR	**Volume Zero** Dhaka, Bangladesh
DURDANA PARVEZ	**Tanya Karim N.R. Khan & Associates** Dhaka, Bangladesh
TAMZID FARHAN	**Matharoo Associates** Ahmedabad,India.
FABIHA PINAZ	**Volume Zero** Dhaka, Bangladesh
NAZMUL HAQUE SARKER	**Domus** Dhaka, Bangladesh

Table 4 ARC Interns of Semester Fall 2010

NAME	Name of the Firm
TASNEEM IMAM	**Studio-5/12** Dhaka, Bangladesh
NUR-E DIPHA SHAMIMA MUTTAQI,	**AECOM Australia Pty Ltd.** Australia
TAMANNA AHMED	**Bashirul Haq & Associates ltd.** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SADAT HAMID	**JA Architects** Dhaka, Banglades
SHAREEN JALAL	**Horizon** Dhaka, Bangladesh
LAMIA WEJEEHAH HOSSAIN	**Puraloy Prokaushali Ltd.** Dhaka, Bangladesh
ARIJITA AREEN CHOWDHURY	**INTACH** Pondicherry, India
SHEKHAR ADITTAY SAYEED	**Volume Zero** Dhaka, Bangladesh
ANINDITA BISWAS	**INTACH** Pondicherry, India
AHMED BIN PARVEZ	**Volume Zero** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SHIFAT MAHMUD	**CAD Ltd.** Dhaka, Bangladesh
ADIBA MAHROZE HOQUE	**VASTU SHILPA Consultants** Ahmedabad , India
TANZIR TAHERCHOWDURY	**RMA architects pvt. ltd.** Mumbai, India
SYEDA TAMARA ZAFAR	**Vistaara Architects (Pvt.) Ltd.** Dhaka, Bangladesh
ADNAN FERDOUS HAQUE	**Vistaara Architects (Pvt.) Ltd.** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SABIHA AMBAREEN HAQUE	**Tanya Karim N.R. Khan & Associates** Dhaka, Bangladesh
TANZIL IDMAM SHAFIQUE	**Domus** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SHAOKI SHAMIM	**VASTU SHILPA Consultants** Ahmedabad ,India
MAHMUDA ALAM	**Jaisim - Fountainhead** Bangalore, India
SHABNAM MUSTAFA	**C & M Architects** Auroville,Tamil Nadu, India.
RAIYAN UL MOMIN	**Arc Architectural Consultant** Dhaka, Bangladesh
ATESHIN RUKHSHA	**Biome Environmental Solutions Pvt Ltd,** Bangalore, India
NUZHAT SHARMIN	**Tanya Karim N.R. Khan & Associates** Dhaka, Bangladesh
SANJANA AHMED	**Domus** Dhaka, Bangladesh

Table 5: Internship Placement, ARC, 2011

Placement	Number
Local Placement	21
International Placement	11
Total	32



Figure 13: Placement Highlight

Job Placement Update, 2010:

In the year 2010 from the various departments of undergraduate program, about 66% students are employed in different sectors; the rate of higher study has increased this year with respect to the last year's data and it is 15% of the undergraduate students, whereas about 14% students are still looking for placements since they have just been graduated in December 2010. As per past employment trend we hope them to be placed within the next three to four months time, however, a significant portion of the unemployed graduates are voluntarily unemployed. Looking at the sector-wise placement data it is evident that our graduates are being placed in wide range of sectors and may be are developing their own enterprise.

Table 6: Full Time Employment data (Undergraduate)

Degree	Total Graduates	Employed		Job Seekers		Higher Study		Data Not Available	
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
BBA	126	92	73%	11	9%	13	10%	10	8%
ESS	33	25	76%	3	9%	2	6%	3	9%
ARC	32	23	72%	5	16%	2	6%	2	6%
CS	5	3	60%	1	20%	1	20%	0	0%
ENH	20	9	45%	6	30%	5	25%	0	0%
LLB	4	1	25%	1	25%	2	50%	0	0%
CSE	7	6	86%	0	0%	1	14%	0	0%
ECE	66	42	64%	11	17%	5	8%	8	12%
Physics	3	3	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
EEE	13	8	62%	2	15%	1	8%	2	15%
Average	309	212	66%	40	14%	32	15%	25	5%

Full-Time Employment Data 2010 (Undergraduate)

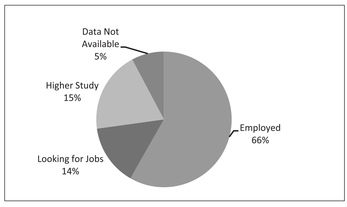


Figure 14: Full time employment data for undergraduates

Undergraduate Employment Data (Department Wise), 2010

Bachelors of Business Administration

Table 7: Sector Wise Employment Data (BBA)

Sector	Number of Students
Bank	25
Consultancy	1
Financial Institute	5
FMCG	15
Logistics	6
Manufacturing	17
Education	3
NGO	2
Airlines	6
Telecom	13
IT	2
RMG	15
Self employed	7
Others	9

Sector Wise Employment Data (BBA)

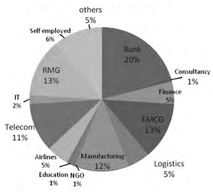


Figure 15: Sector Wise Employment Data (BBA)

BSc. In Economics and Social Science

Table 8: Sector Wise Employment Data (ESS)

Sector	Number of Students
Media	3
Manufacturing	4
Education	4
NGO	6
Telecom	1
Others	4

Sector-wise Employment Data (ESS)



Figure 16: Sector Wise Employment Data (ESS)

BSc in Architecture

Table 9: Sector Wise Employment Data (ARC)

Sector	Number of Students
Architect Firm	24
NGO	4
Development	3

Sector Wise Employment Data (ARC)



Figure 17: Sector Wise Employment Data (ARC)

BA in English

Table 10: Sector Wise Employment Data (ENH)

Sector	Number of Students
Media	2
Education	4
Hotel	1

Sector Wise Employment Data (ENH)

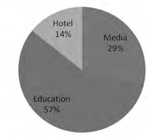


Figure 17: Sector Wise Employment Data (ENH)

BSc in Computer Science (CS) and BSc in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

Table 11: Sector Wise Employment Data CS and CSE

Sector	Number of Students
Bank	1
Education	3
IT	4
Consultancy	1
Others	2

Sector Wise Employment-CS and CSE

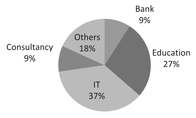


Figure 19: Sector Wise Employment Data CS and CSE

BSc in Electrical and Communication Engineering

Table 12: Sector Wise Employment Data (ECE)

Sector	Number of Students
Telecom	5
Education	12
IT	11
Bank	1
Logistics	1
Manufacturing	1
Others	5
Marine	1

Sector Wise Employment-ECE

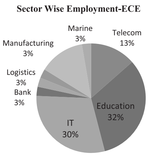


Figure 20 Sector Wise Employment Data (ECE)

BSc in Electrical and Electronics Engineering

Table 13: Sector Wise Employment Data (EEE)

Sector	Number of Students
Airlines	1
Education	1
IT	2
Development	1
Others	2
Power Generation	1

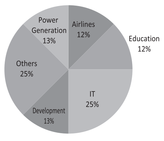


Figure 21: Sector Wise Employment Data (EEE)

Table 14: Employers' List 2010

Employers' List 2010	
Aarong	Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited
AB Bank Limited	AECOM Australia Pty Ltd.
ACI Limited	Augere Wireless Broadband Bangladesh Limited. (QUBEE)
Ahsan Rashid & Company	JA Architects
Akij Food & Beverage Ltd.	Jaisim - Fountainhead
Al-Arafa Islami Bank Limited	L, Exobo International
Ananash TRS Ltd.	Latitude-23
APL(Bangladesh)Pvt. Ltd.	Mercantile Bank Limited
Arab Bangladesh Bank Limited.	Nestle Bangladesh Limited.
Arc Architectural Consultant	Ogilvy
Babylon Group	One Bank Limited
Barger Paints Bangladesh Limited	Otobi Limited
Bashirul Haq & Associates ltd.	Peoplescape
Biman Bangladesh Airline Limited	Premier Cement
Biome Environmental Solutions Pvt Ltd,	Prime Bank Limited
BRAC	Puraloy Prokaushali Ltd.
BRAC Bank Limited	Reckitt Benkiser
British American Tobacco Bangladesh	RMA architects pvt. ltd.
C & M Architects	Robi Axiata Limited
CAD Ltd	Sanofi Aventis
Citi Bank NA	Singer Bangladesh Limited
Concord Group	South East Bank Limited
Dhaka Bank Limited	Square Pharmaceuticals Limited.
Domus	Standard Bank Limited
Dutch Bangla Bank Limited	Standard Chartered Bank Limited
Eastern Bank Limited	Studio-5/12
EXIM Bank Limited	Systain Consulting
First Security Islami Bank Limited.	Tanya Karim N.R. Khan & Associates
Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)	The City Bank Limited
GMG Airlines	TNT Express
Grameenphone Limited	Transcom Electronics Limited
Gulf Air	Trust Bank Limited
Heidelberg Cement	Unilever Bangladesh
Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC)	United Commercial Bank Limited.
Horizon	Uttara Bank Limited
IDLC Finance Limited	Uttara Finance Limited
Innovation Concept & Development Limited (ICDL)	VASTU SHILPA Consultants
INTACH	Vistaara Architects (Pvt.) Ltd.
Investment Corporation of Bangladesh	Volume Zero

Post-graduate Employment Data, 2010

According to the data availed from respective departments it reflects that overall employment is almost 100% of the post-graduates. One of the significant reasons observed is that a large number of the proportion has been already employed before they even have started the post-graduation. However, in year 2010 the employment rate is very high in compared to the previous years.

Table 15: Post-graduate Employment data 2010

Degree	Total Student	Employed	%	Unemployed	%	Higher Study	%
MBA	53	45	87%	7	13%	0	0
LLB	2	0	0	0	0%	2	100%
MDS	12	12	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MPH	20	20	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MED	21	21	100%	0	0%	0	0%
ECD	12	12	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MSAE	1	1	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MAGD	11	11	100%	0	0%	0	0%
PGDMA	7	7	100%	0	0%	0	0%
ENH	4	4	100%	0	0%	0	0%
Biotech	5	5	100%	0	0%	0	0%
MDM	5	5	100%	0	0%	0	0%

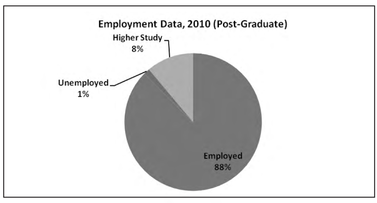


Figure 22: Employment Data (Post-Graduate)

Annul Report on Teaching Learning Center (TLC) BRAC University

The Teaching Learning Center (TLC) of BRAC University works both with faculty members and students to strengthen effective teaching practices. TLC has been working since the beginning of the university with the mission to encourage and facilitate a learner-centered learning environment across the departments of the University.

The activities of TLC

- Organizes three days workshop on Teaching and Learning at BRAC University for newly recruited faculty.
- Extends support to Residential Semester for providing initial orientation.
- Provides support to students for improving their writing skills through the Writing Centre of BRACU.
- Offers individual psycho-emotional support through Counseling Unit of BRACU
- Organizes workshops on Personal and Professional Development for students, faculty members and staff of BRACU.

TLC facilitates the integrated sessions on Ethical Dilemma and Personal Development: Habits of Highly Successful Students' (Ethics and Culture course) for the students of Residential Semester of BRAC University as well.

Activities of Teaching Learning Center (TLC) in 2010:

1. Workshops on Teaching and Learning at BRAC University for the newly recruited faculty of BRACU : 3-Days Workshops on Teaching and Learning at BRAC University for the newly recruited faculty of BRACU were held on January 02-04'(TLC-1), and May 08-10 (TLC-2) 2010 at BRACU Savar campus. These workshops were designed as an extended orientation program for the Faculty members where they had the wide scope to know the activities of BRAC University and could have a clear perception about the synergy between BRAC and BRAC U.

The workshop focused on to explore BRACU as a Teaching –Learning Laboratory both for the faculty and the students. The workshop added extra values with the sessions on Counseling (both academic and personal) from BRACU Counseling Unit.

The workshops were facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Ms. Farida Akhter, Mr. Md. Mahfuzul Bari Chowdhury, Dr. Monica Gomes, Ms. Mahbuba Naznin Sani, Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury ,Prof. Mumit Khan, and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury

2. Day Long Follow-up Workshop on 17th April 2010: A daylong Follow-Up workshop was held on 17th April 2010 Saturday, for the faculty



Picture:: Teaching-Learning workshop on May 08-10, 2010



Picture:: Workshop on Personal Development :Habits of High Performing People for the Admin Staffs of BRACU

of BRAC University (BRAC U) who attended the January 2-4 2010 Workshop on Teaching and Learning at BRACU Savar Campus. The workshop aimed to get the reflections and sharing ideas and learning experiences in their teaching from the newly joined faculty of BRAC University. The workshop was facilitated by Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRACU and was carried through all total seven questions based on a required reading titled, The Teachers as an Effective Performer(Hunt, Gillbert H., Wiseman, Dennis G. and Touzel, Timothy J., 2009, pp.104-132, USA).

3. Day-long workshops on Personal Development: Habits of High Performing People:

a. workshop,designed for the Administrative and Management Staffs of BRAC University (batch-I & II): The management staff of BRACU involved in dealing with students, guardians, faculty and other colleagues needs strong people's skills to provide better service to them. This workshop aimed for the professional development of the administration and management staffs of BRACU. It was organized jointly by TLC and CSO of BRACU.

The first workshop was held on May 29th and the second was held on June 12th, 2010.

Total number of participants were 55 (24+31) and the facilitators were Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRACU, Air Cdre(Retd.) Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar, BRACU, Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, CSO and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Lecturer, TLC, BRACU.

b. workshop, designed for the House of Volunteers (HoV) of BRAC University on



Picture: Workshop with House of Volunteers



Picture: Session on Personal Development/ Students of RS, Savar residential campus

June 19th 2010: The workshop was jointly organized by TLC and CSO of BRACU for the students of House of Volunteers. The workshop focused on ensuring practices of effective habits by the students.

C. workshop, designed for the Students of Residential Semester, Savar Campus, BRACU on June 20th' 2010 and on October 11th 2010

The session was organized for the students of BRACU for their residential semester (this session has been included to their Ethics and Culture subject for each semester).

The session was designed based on the book The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People; written by Stephen R. Covey. The main focus of the session was to make the students think, how they could apply these habits in their lives to be the most successful and effective leaders of the nation. Total number of participants' were 360 and the facilitators were Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, Ms. Mahbuba Naznin Sani, Sr. Lecturer, Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, CSO and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Lecturer, TLC, BRACU.

4. Consultation Workshops on Best Teaching Practices at BRAC University

Ensuring the quality of teaching for all students has become a major concern for BRAC University. For addressing this concern, BRACU recently facilitated a number of workshops (fully initiated by TLC) with the faculty of different levels of teaching-experiences at BRACU. The first Consultation Workshop was held on July 12th'2010 with Directors, Chairpersons and Department Heads of different Departments, Centers and Schools of BRACU aimed to share the on-going best teaching practices as well as identifying existing gaps and ways to improve the gaps at BRACU.

On August 5th, 2010, A Follow-up (Second) Consultation Workshop was held with the Directors, Chairpersons and Department Heads again focusing on the outputs, generated on the first Consultation workshop and went for an Action plan.

The third Consultation Workshop held on 22nd of August'2010, followed by the second one, had been designed for the senior and mid-level experienced faculty members of BRACU, selected from respective departments, schools and centers for getting their ideas on the same issue.

The findings of second Consultation workshop (14 issues of concern) were shared in the 62nd Academic Coordination meeting (ACC). Several actions had been taken to address those issues. One of the most significant decisions was taken to develop a Core Facilitation Team (CFT) from different dept., schools, centers, and institutes for the faculty development initiative at BRACU.

5.Day-long Workshops on The Art of Questioning in Creative Teaching at BRAC University



Picture: Workshop with CfL on Art of Questioning

a. workshop,designed for the faculty members of CfL on July 17th, 2010: A day-long workshop on The Art of Questioning organized by TLC was held on 17th of July'10 for the 29 faculty members of Centre for Languages (CfL) of BRACU. It was conducted through Colloquium method based on two major parts, as: a) why ask questions, how to elicit responses and how to respond to the students' responses? b) exercises on Identifying the types of questions and Formulating of questions.

b. workshop,designed for the faculty members of BRAC Business School (BBS) on September'23rd, 2010 : The workshop was designed for the faculty members of BRAC Business School (BBS).Number of participants were 16 and facilitated by Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah, In-Charge, CSO and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Faculty member, TLC, BRACU.

6. Session on Ethical Dilemmas, on August 8th, 2010 for the Students of Residential Semester, Savar Campus, BRACU

A session on Ethical Dilemmas was facilitated for the residential semester students as a concluding part of the semester course "Ethics and Culture". There were two sessions for 120 minutes each for a total number of 61 students. It was conducted through Colloquim method; twelve cases on ethical dilemmas were discussed followed by a power point presentation as well. Sessions were facilitated by Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC and Director TLC, BRACU and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Lecturer, TLC, BRACU.

7. Experiential Teaching Learning Workshops with the Core Facilitation Team (CFT) of BRACU on September'16th, 2010

a. 1st Experiential Teaching Learning Workshop with the Core Facilitation Team (CFT) of BRACU was held on Sept'16, 2010. The workshop aimed to explore and develop a greater social bondage between each of the nominated members of CFT. Again, the objective of the workshop also was to develop better ideas to harmonize the faculty's teaching styles based on the learning styles of the students. The workshop was carried out through group discussions, group presentation and exercise, based on i) Socialization processes and ii) How Students' Learn VS How we Teach.

b. Second Experiential Teaching Learning Workshop with Core Facilitation Team (CFT) of BRAC University, was held on 7th October'2010. The workshop was divided into two sessions. The first session focused on The Art of Questioning in Creative Teaching at BRACU, which was conducted through Colloquim method and was facilitated by Mr. Shawkat Kamal and Mr Mahmudul Haq (Members of CFT, School of Business).

The second session was focused on Micro-Teaching presentation and the presentation was from Computer Science and Engineering (CSE)

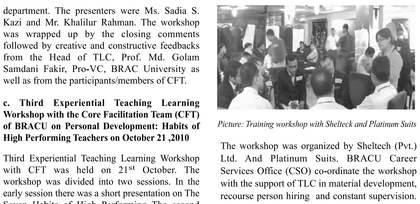
department. The presenters were Ms. Sadia S. Kazi and Mr. Khalilur Rahman. The workshop was wrapped up by the closing comments followed by creative and constructive feedbacks from the Head of TLC, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRAC University as well as from the participants/members of CFT.

c. Third Experiential Teaching Learning Workshop with the Core Facilitation Team (CFT) of BRACU on Personal Development: Habits of High Performing Teachers on October 21 ,2010

Third Experiential Teaching Learning Workshop with CFT was held on 21st October. The workshop was divided into two sessions. In the early session there was a short presentation on The Seven Habits of High Performing The second session was focused on Micro-Teaching presentation and the presenters were Ms. Farrah Jabeen and Mr. Golam Jamil from Centre for Languages (CfL). The workshop was wrapped up by the closing comments followed by creative and constructive feedbacks from the Director of TLC, Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir, Pro-VC, BRAC University as well as from the participants and members of CFT.

8. 6-days Training Workshop on Professional Development for the employees of Sheltech (Pvt.) Ltd & Platinum Suits (Sept'25-Sept'30)

A six days training workshop on Professional Development for the employees of Sheltech (Pvt.) Ltd & Platinum Suits had been facilitated from 25th to 30th September 2010 at Platinum Suits, Banani, Dhaka.



Picture: Training workshop with Sheltech and Platinum Suits

The workshop was organized by Sheltech (Pvt.) Ltd. And Platinum Suits. BRACU Career Services Office (CSO) co-ordinate the workshop with the support of TLC in material development, recourse person hiring and constant supervision. The sessions were facilitated by Ms. Sabrina Shahidullah(In-charge, CSO) and Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury, Lecturer, TLC. A short visit of Prof. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir in the workshop added extra values in learning of the participants

TLC Recruitment in 2010:



Ms. Samina Anzum Chowdhury has joined as a full time faculty member at TLC in March '2010. She got both of her Graduation and Masters degrees on Education from University of Dhaka (I. E. R.).



Picture: 3rd TLC Workshop.

Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) Center

BRAC University is the one and only affiliates of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) (http://www.gdln.org) in Bangladesh and has been operating since 2006. This centre is coordinated by the World Bank from Washington D.C. The GDLN is a partnership of over 120 recognized global institutions (affiliates) in over 80 countries that collaborate in the design of customized learning solution for individuals and organizations working in development issues. Affiliates are as diverse as the Asian Institute of Management, the Ethiopian Civil Service College, the Islamic Development Bank and Pontificia Universidad Catolica of Peru. The centre for GDLN at BRAC University has its own Video Conferencing Centre. This is located at the 18th floor of University Building and is used to conduct live meetings, corporate affairs, seminars and presentations among people who are geographically apart. Furthermore, it enables virtual tours and participation in global events. Around 40 people can participate at a time

GDLN Activities:

Workshop on The Global Youth Anti-corruption Network

A workshop on "The Global Youth Anti-corruption Network" via Video Conference was held 12 January, 2010. This was the 1st event of the year.

This workshop had connected World Bank HQ. Washington DC with several countries: Bangladesh (BRAC university GDLN Center), Burundi, Colombia, India (New Delhi), Macedonia, Philippines, Sierra Leone, and Zimbabwe

The session had started with introductory remarks of the Youth Services, Governance & Innovation Practice, World Bank Institute. This was followed by open house discussion, in which ten selected youth organizations forming the core of the Global Youth Anti-Corruption Network had participated to (1) learn about ways to strengthen and expand their network and the role they can each play in that process; (2) learn from each other's experience in fighting corruption and successful case studies of youth action against corruption from around the world; (3) increased their awareness about the role they can play in fighting corruption in their countries.

Dr. Iftekhar Zaman, CEO, Transparency International Bangladesh and a number of youth participated from Bangladesh side.

International Symposium on Cardiac care session: Series 2

The World Heart Foundation has been organizing the International Videoconference on Cardiac Surgery series via Video Conference since December 2008. The series cardiac care session was funded by The VinaCapital Foundation, hosted GDLN Center, Hanoi and the GDLN Center Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in cooperation with the Cardio Vascular Surgery Association of Vietnam and the Viet Duc Hospital.

The seminar, for series: 2, was scheduled on 2nd Thursday of every other month from 6.00 pm to 9:00 pm at the BRAC University Global Development Learning Network (GDLN). We connected world class cardiac surgeons in the US and Canada to the cardiac surgeons in South East Asia, and beyond via a live videoconference. The cardiac surgeons in Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, and Vietnam had participated at the meeting.





This series began as a capacity building effort for the fine cardiac surgeons in Vietnam. It has grown into a world wide effort with participants in Vietnam, China, India, Bangladesh, several countries in Africa, Israel, Ireland and the US.

The Singapore Experience – Ingredients for successful Nationwide e-Transformation

A day long event was held on Wednesday, 3 February, 2010. Countries participating via videoconferencing were: Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

The workshop shared the role of ICT in the public sector transformation agenda and Singapore's success in eGovernment via close collaboration with the private sector. Experts from Singapore Government CIO Office and leading Singapore ICT companies, namely, IDA International, Crimson Logic, NCS, novaCITYNETS and Ecquaria shared highlights about Singapore's 30 years of eGovernment journey.

Ms. Ellen Goldstein; Country Director, World Bank Bangladesh, Ambassador Verghese Mathews Singapore High Commissioner to Bangladesh, and Mr. A.K.M. Abdul Awal Mazumder, Secretary, Ministry of Science and ICT were present in the opening session of this workshop.

Climate and Disaster Resilience Initiative (CDRI) for Asian Cities

Tokyo Distance Learning Center coordinated a new program, called "Climate and Cities Resilience initiative (CDRI) for Asian cities". This course was designed with blended-learning including four Video Conferencing sessions from Feb 2010 to April 2010. The duration of each session was 3 hours. This initiative was taken because climate and disaster related risks were increasing in Asia. CDRI was initiated in 2008 by various partners, taking a developmental approach to reducing climate related disaster risks.

Participants were from City governments, urban ministries from CITYNET member cities and their respective countries. The Cities connected by Video conference were Chennai (India), Colombo (Sri Lanka), Dhaka (Bangladesh), Hue (Vietnam), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Makati (Philippines), Sukabumi (Indonesia), Suwon (Korea), Kyoto (Japan). There were six participants from Dhaka City Corporation.

APO e-Learning on Knowledge Management Concept

This course was organized by Asian Productivity Organization (APO) in collaboration with National Productivity Organization (NPO) Bangladesh and the GDLN of the World Bank platform from 2 to 5 March 2010 at BRAC University Video Conference Centre.

The main faculty comprising three resource speakers delivered presentations from their own countries. In each phase of the course, there were five country groups of 20 participants each. Each of the country groups were moderated by a country project coordinator in each GDLN center. The presentations of resource speakers were interactive, each group of participants made presentations to share their experience.

A multi-country two-hour video conference on South Asia Regional Collaboration On IT Enabled Services.

A multi-country video conference **South Asia Regional Collaboration On IT Enabled Services–** discussion (connecting the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC with the South Asian countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka) was held on 10 March, 2011. The multi-country video conference is part of a series of South Asian regional cooperation GDLNs organized by the World Bank with an objective to initiate and enrich dialogue among the various stake holders as well as to bring forward actionable steps towards progress on a diverse range of issues of regional cooperation in South Asia. The goal is to build understanding/deepen knowledge among the stakeholders including policy makers and civil society, on the opportunities, challenges and the path leading to more effective cooperation in the South Asia region.

APO e-Learning Program on Information Security Management System: ISO27000:

This course was organized by Asian Productivity Organization (APO) in collaboration with National Productivity Organization (NPO) Bangladesh and the GDLN of the World Bank platform from 19 to 22 April 2010 at BRAC University Video Conference Centre.

The intent of this course was to enable participants to understand the standards, requirements, and application of the Information Security Management System (ISMS) based on IS027000 standards; and to prepare them to become lead assessors and practitioners for enhancing efficiency and productivity.

Dialog on Civil Service Training Program on Private Sector Development

A two hour video conference for the 2nd Pilot Program of CSTP on PSD was held on 26th April, 2010 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at BRAC University Center. The video conference was the part of 3 weeks training program organized by the Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI) in partnership with Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University and KDI School of Public Policy and Management, South Korea. Seventeen Deputy Secretaries of the GoB have participated this Video Conferencing session.

International Symposium on Cardiac Care for ICU nurses and physicians: Series 1

The World Heart Foundation has organized the International Videoconference on Cardiac **Care for ICU nurses and physicians: Series 1** via Video Conference from June 2010.This Series 1, was funded by the VinaCapital Foundation Vietnam, the World Heart Foundation and supported by the World Bank Global Development Learning Network Asia Pacific.

The Symposium was scheduled on 3rd Thursday of every other month from 6.00 pm to 9:00 pm.

APO Energy Efficiency in SMEs:

This course was organized By Asian Productivity Organization (APO) in collaboration with National Productivity Organization (NPO) Bangladesh and the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) of the World Bank platform from 17-20 May, 2010 at BRAC University Video Conference Centre.

As one of its major initiatives to promote energy efficiency and energy management, the APO initiated a series of projects to build the capacity of member countries. In 2010, a three-phase e-learning course was held to deliver basic training on Energy Efficiency for 15 member countries. High-performing participants from this course were selected on a merit basis for this advanced training to receive in-depth, comprehensive training.

A discussion program on the Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation program

A two hour discussion program on the Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation program was held through Video Conference at BRAC University GDLN Center. Dr. Ferdous Jahan (Academic Coordinator, BDI), Ms. Saba Moin from WB Dhaka office and Mr. Juan Blazquez Ancin, GDLN coordinator, South Asia Region, World Bank, were present in this discussion forum. This discussion event was connected World Bank Headquarters, Washington DC with the GDLN VC Centers at Colombo.

e-Learning Course on Food safety management and Food Traceability

This course was also organized by Asian Productivity Organization in collaboration with National Productivity Organization (NPO)





Bangladesh Global Development learning Center from 20-23 July 2010. Engr. Horendra Nath Ghosh coordinated the event for Bangladesh participated by 23 participants of different Public and Private Enterprises invited by NPO, Dhaka.

This workshop aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the key concepts in a modem food safety and food traceability system, and the food traceability standard IS022005:2007 intent, requirements, and applications and equip the participants with the knowledge and skills to implement a modem food traceability system to meet IS022005:2007 requirements and with critical success factors in the food industry.

The Countries connected by Video Conference were Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.



Picture: Group discussion and Country Presentation

Dialogue on **SCALING UP NUTRITION IN SOUTHASIA**

A two-hour video conference discussion on scaling up nutrition in South Asia was held on 16 September 2010 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The event connected World Bank Headquarter, Washington DC with the GDLN Centers at Colombo, Delhi, Dhaka, Islamabad, Katmandu, and Kabul World Bank Country Office.

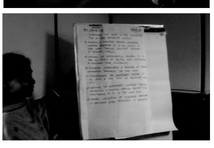
Meera Shekar, Lead Health and Nutrition Specialist in the World Bank made a keynote presentation. Followed by open discussion, wherein the participants from the countries of the Region shared experiences, challenges and solutions.

APO e-Learning Program on Total Quality Management (TQM) for the Service Industry

This course was organized By Asian Productivity Organization (APO) in collaboration with National Productivity Organization (NPO) Bangladesh and the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) of the World Bank platform on 4-7 Oct 2010 at BRAC University Video Conference Centre.

In today's world, organizations are facing growing challenges from global competition and the needs of increasingly sophisticated customers. Sensing the need to improve the product or service quality, most organizations are applying various improvement methods in the hope of achieving the required growth and also greater profit.

One of the methods deemed necessary to improve the product or service quality in organizations is through the implementation of Total Quality Management (TQM). TQM which has shown great success in manufacturing companies is now being rapidly adapted to service organizations, due to the nature of service industries in terms of its customer orientation.



GDLN Activities: General Meeting, Sri Lanka, 2010

Global Development Learning Network Asia Pacific (GDLN AP) organized its annual general meeting in **Sri Lanka, 2010**, hosted by the World Bank Colombo office and Distance Learning Center Ltd, Sri Lanka. The meeting took place from 15 -20 Nov, 2010. BRAC University is the only GDLN Affiliated center in Bangladesh and Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury the Registrar, attended in that GDLN AP regional general meeting. More than 40 representatives from South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific gathered in Colombo, Sri Lanka to discuss how the region could boost its provision of knowledge exchange and capacity building

Distance Learning Course on the Microfinance Training of the Trainers (MFTOT)

The Seventh delivery of the Microfinance Training of Trainers course (MFTOT-7) started on Dec 9 and will continue till April 2010 .

Microfinance is recognized as an effective development interaction that enhances access to financial services by low income individuals. While there is great demand for microfinance services the main constraint is not a lack of funds but a lack of capacity in operating a sustainable institution. To address this problem, the ADBI, TDLC which is a member of GDLN Asia Pacific and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) launched the MFToT program in 2005.

The interactive microfinance distance learning course (MFDL) developed by UNCDF was the core learning material for study. Four (4) Interactive Video Conference took place in 4 months at BRAC University Premises along with online tutoring, e-discussion and online exams. Submission of assignments and receiving online tutoring were helped participants to master the knowledge of best practice of microfinance.

Sites connected for the session were Afghanistan, Bangladesh, France, Japan, Mongolia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, and Sri Lanka GDLN Centers.






Ayesha Abed Library

In 2010 BRAC University Ayesha Abed Library continued to make progress towards the realization of the key strategies designed to improve support for the University's learning, teaching and research activities. The library has developed and improved its core services and products this year. In 2010, 2059 books added to the main collection through purchasing. The library was able to extend the range and depth of the collection through the subscribing to thousands of e-journals and databases via PERI under the Bangladesh INASP PERI consortium program. Library has also subscription of a number of other databases such as JSTOR, eGranary, AGORA, HINARI, OARE.

Several initiatives were taken throughout this year. The main objective of these initiatives was to develop our library a 21st Century world-class Knowledge Resource Centre and provide innovative services and collections to the teaching, learning and research communities.

The library conducted 51 Information literacy classes for 1255 students and faculties. The main purpose of the sessions was to acquaint students and faculties with the information sources, resources and techniques to retrieve resources as per their needs. The library staff attended several training and workshop in order to improve their professional and technical skills.

Project Implemented in 2010

This year BRACU Library has successfully implemented a project entitled "Implementing next generation Open Source Discovery tool VuFind at BRAC University Libraries", (http://library.bracu.ac.bd/vufind/) funded by INASP, UK. VuFind is open source software which was selected as the preferred Search and Discovery interface for BRAC University Libraries. The project duration was May 2010 to January 2011.

Objective of the Project

The main objective of this project was to better integrate all of the library's resources and to provide a clean, consistent interface for the users. Other specific objectives are:

- To access and discover information in a robust, distributed digital environment through an open source federate tool
- To enable users to search and browse through all library resources (Catalogue, Institutional Repository and other database and e-journals.)
- To improve the ability to parse, contextualize, and interpret search results through better interface design
- To provide a clean, consistent and single interface
- To increase access to library resources
- To eliminates need to repeat same search multiple times
- To reduce time needed to find information

Project Outcomes

- Intuitive searching across many collections in the BRACU Library. BRAC University has successfully integrated Koha (12,000), Dspace (629) and e-journals (46,158) with VuFind Discovery tool.

- BRAC University is the first university who has integrated KOHA and Dspace with VuFind and has build a Koha- VuFind Driver which is available at current development trunk https:// vufind.svn. sourceforge.net/ svnroot/vufind/trunk/web/Drivers/Koha.php
- VuFind enables BRACU to meet the needs of its users in terms of improved experience, and better search functionality. It will improve client satisfaction.
- The addition of faceted search filtering by author, topic or format, signposting to alternative editions, tagging, personal listing and a variety of output options, will all increase the ability of our users to find and utilize library resources, and help promote our digital collections.
- Enhanced Web 2.0 functionality. Now users can tag records, leave comments, add to favorites RSS feeds.
- The success of this project is that other universities including the INASP PERII Consortium institutes across the country can also implement and similarly enjoy the benefits of this discovery tool.
- The University has also build expertise in the implementation of the software and is now in a position to offer both implementation consultancy and software support services to other institutions
- Step by step documentation of VuFind installation, customization, integration with KOHA and Dspace has been prepared.
- Any institute which is considering implementation VuFind, or another open-source discovery platform, is likely to benefit from the experiences of this discovery tool project.
- Data quality has been Improved

Financial Assistance

BRACU provided a number of scholarships and financial assistant form students. These supports were available to students who:

- Performed well in their HSC/SSC or O/A Levels prior to Joining BRACU
- Performed well in BRACU
- BRAC-FORD students
- Children of BRAC employees
- Had others siblings studying at BRACU
- Were physically challenged
- Were financially Disadvantaged (need basis)

Financial Aid 2009-2010

Particular	**2009-2010**
Full tuition waiver	99,75,827/-
Partial Waiver	1,97,18393/-
Full tuition waiver from scholarship Endowment fund	33,08,125/-
Living allowance to students	9,14,353/-
Total	3,39,16,698/-